



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,  
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA.

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# LABOUR REPORT, 1940.

No. 31.

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Prepared under Instructions from  
THE HONORABLE THE TREASURER,

by

S. R. CARVER,  
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

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MAY, 1942.

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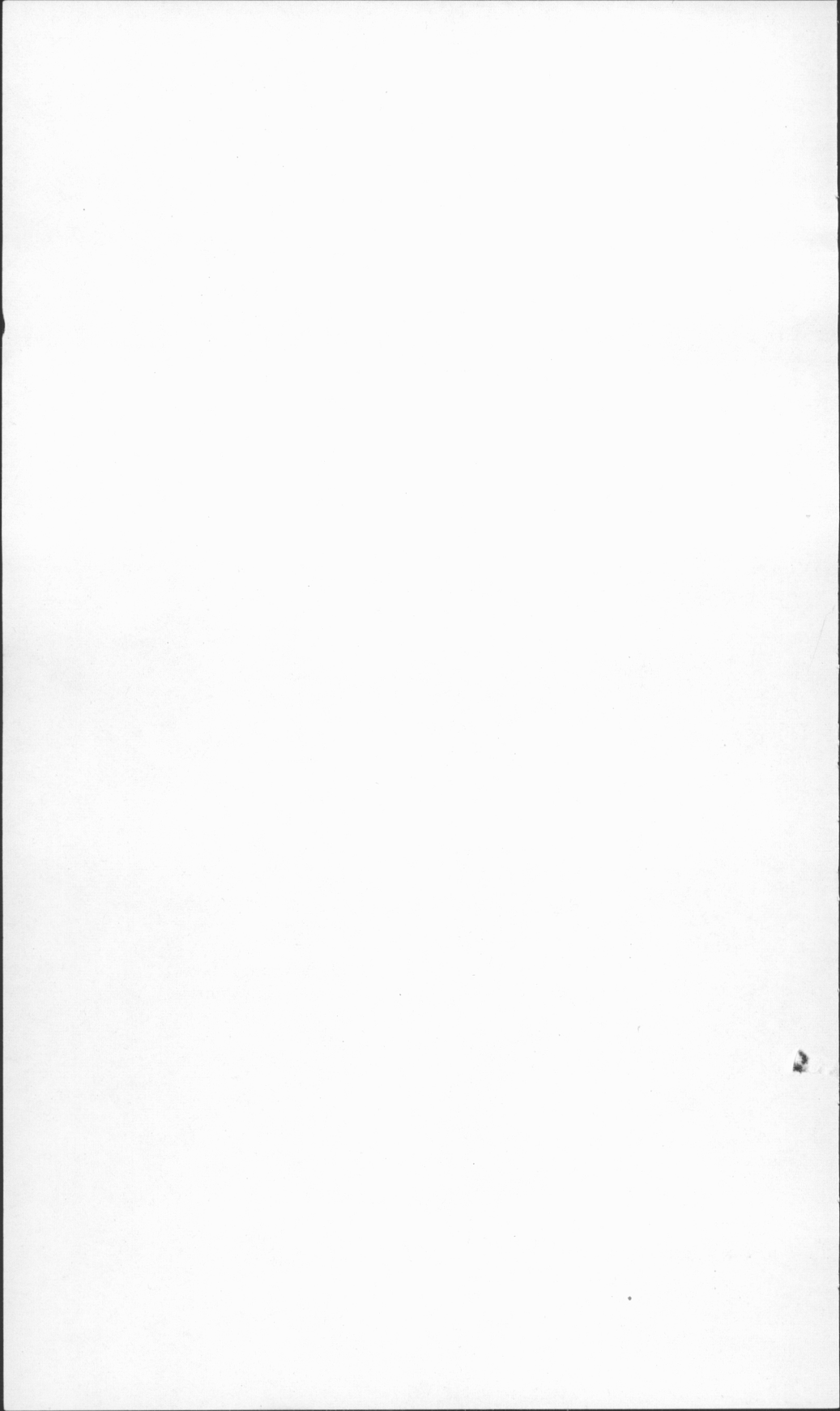
By Authority :

L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

(Printed in Australia.)

[C.S. No. 693].—1405.





## PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the thirty-first of the series and deals chiefly with 1940 and previous years. Some of the tabulations, however, include particulars relating to 1941.

The Report follows the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement. The subject-matter has been divided into five Chapters, covering information in regard to Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages; Employment and Unemployment (including Industrial Disputes), and Associations (Labour Organizations). The index at the end of the volume will considerably facilitate reference.

For the purpose of tabulating the results of the investigations which have been made in regard to rates of wage, labour organizations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following classification of industries and occupations has been adopted:—

### Classification of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

It is gratifying to record that secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail dealers, house agents, and others have readily responded to the somewhat heavy demands made upon them.

Without the help so rendered, the investigations contained herein would have been impossible, and an expression of thanks is tendered to all who have thus assisted.

The valuable assistance rendered to the Bureau by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices, is acknowledged, and thanks are expressed to the officers concerned.

Special acknowledgment is made to Mr. H. G. Downing, the officer in charge of Labour Statistics in this Bureau, for the care and attention which he has bestowed on the compilation of this Report and to the staff under his control for their many special services.

Owing to the exigencies of war-time administration, some matter which appeared in previous issues has been omitted and publication of the Report has been delayed beyond the normal date. It is possible that conditions may necessitate considerable abridgement of the Report for 1941, consequently recipients of this issue should preserve it for reference.

S. R. CARVER,

*Acting Commonwealth Statistician.*

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,  
Canberra, A.C.T., May, 1942.

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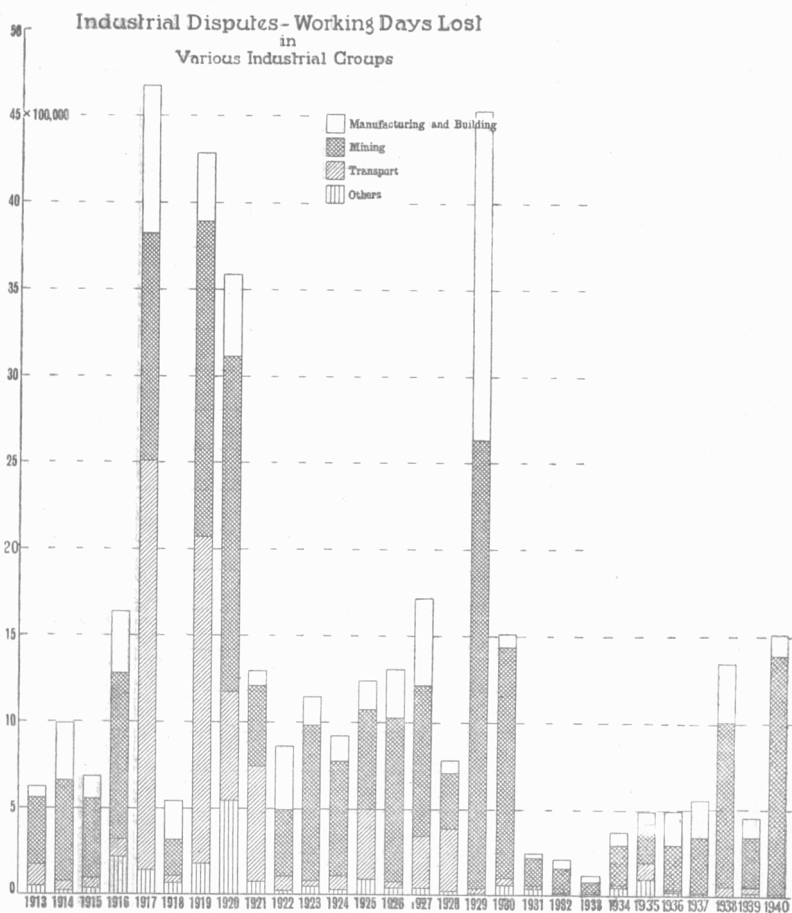
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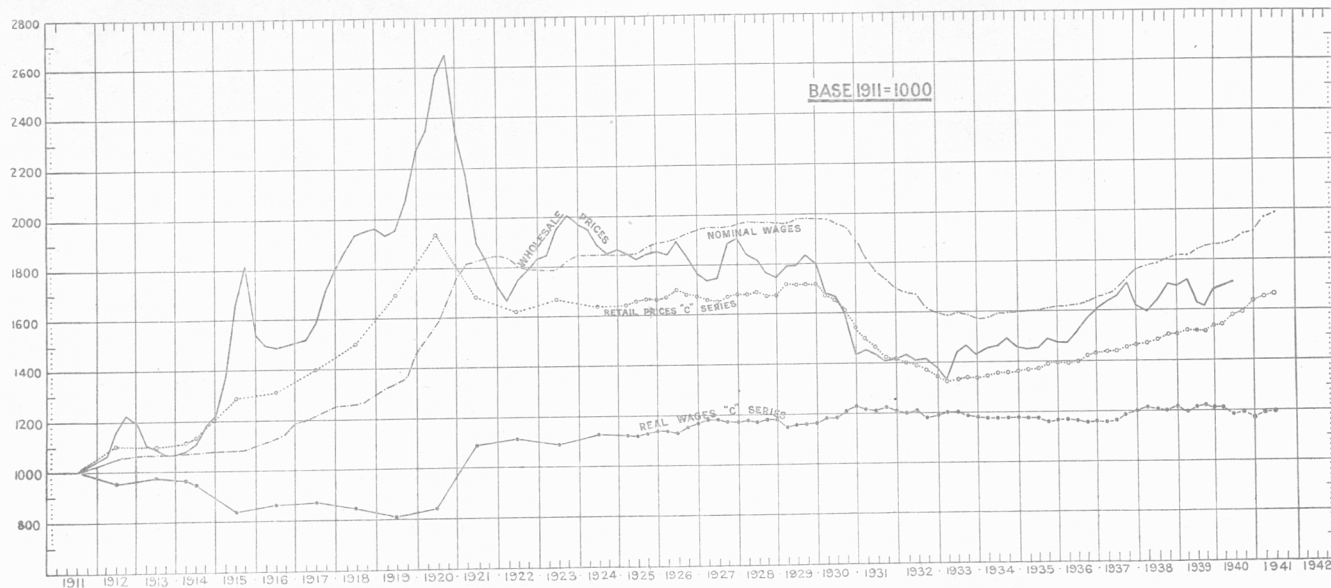
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EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1917, and comparing the shaded and blank sections with the scale, it will be observed that about 870,000 working days were lost in Manufacturing and Building, over 1,300,000 in Mining, over 2,300,000 in Transport, and about 150,000 in other industries.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES, NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE OR REAL WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS.—AUSTRALIA, 1911 TO 1941.



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the above graph are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices which are for Melbourne. They are all calculated to the common base 1911 = 1,000, the scale for which appears on the left of the graph. They are shown *quarterly* from 1912 to 1930 and thereafter *annually* in the case of the Wholesale Prices (Melbourne). The "C" Series Retail Prices (food, groceries, rent of 4 and 5 rooms, clothing and miscellaneous household expenditure) are shown *quarterly* from 1925. Nominal Wages are shown *quarterly* from 1914, and Real Wages *quarterly* from 1925.



## CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

### § 1.—Collection of Returns of Retail Prices and Rents.

One of the most important functions of the Labour Section of the Bureau is the regular collection and tabulation of returns of retail prices and house rentals.

The retail prices of an extensive range of articles and services in common demand are collected at frequent intervals from representative retail establishments in the more important towns throughout Australia. The prices of a less extensive range of commodities are also collected at annual intervals from most towns of any significant size, the total number of towns so covered reaching approximately 200.

Definite standards of quality have been established for each article in order to ensure that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for articles of identical grade or quality will be recorded at all times and for all places. These standards, which are incorporated in printed "specifications", are closely watched and revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing trade practices and conditions.

The actual collection of the data is carried out, under the direct supervision of the State Statisticians, by specially qualified officers of the Bureau, while two supervising field officers are provided to assist in the co-ordination of activities in the several States. The prices of foods are obtained, where practicable, from about ten retailers in each of the capital cities, and from about five retailers in the provincial towns. Tradespeople and agents are carefully selected in order to ensure the supply of representative figures for the whole of each town, and returns are carefully verified if there should be any doubt as to the accuracy of the information supplied.

Returns of rents are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number of house-agents in each town, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to the number of rooms. These returns show the rents of individual houses, all of which are inspected by the Bureau's field officers.

### § 2. Compilation of Indexes of Retail Prices and Rents.

1. **General.**—The methods adopted for the compilation of indexes of retail prices and rents are briefly described in the following pages. For a more detailed explanation, and an analysis of the problems involved, the reader should refer to the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.



2. The "Regimen".—The "regimen" from which the retail price indexes are compiled consists of a list of those commodities and services which most commonly enter into the consumption of the average household. The regimen is divided into the following distinct Groups and Sections:—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries ..	{ A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing ..	D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing ..	{ E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years). J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous ..	{ K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

An index (the "All Items" or "C" series) is compiled for the whole of the foregoing Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for each Group or Section separately. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau:—

Group.	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries.. .. .	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5 rooms) .. .	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 rooms) ("B" Series) .. .	Quarterly
III.	Clothing .. .	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements ..	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" series) ..	Quarterly
I.	Food and Groceries ("200 Towns" series) ..	Yearly

For convenience of reference several of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table:—

**Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.**  
**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

No.	Item.	Unit.	Mass Unit (per capita).	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost— Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1940. (a)
-----	-------	-------	----------------------------	--

**SECTION A.—GROCERIES.**

1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered) ..	2-lb. loaf ..	100	3.54
2	Flour, ordinary ..	2 lb. ..	25	0.67
3	Flour, self-raising ..	2-lb. pkt. ..	12	0.61
4	Tea ..	1-lb. pkt. ..	8	1.60
5	Sugar, white granulated, 1A ..	1 lb. ..	100	2.53
6	Rice, polished (Australian) ..	1 lb. ..	8	0.18
7	Sago, seed tapioca ..	1 lb. ..	1	0.03
8	Jam, plum ..	1½-lb. tin ..	8	0.48
9	Golden Syrup ..	2-lb. tin ..	1	0.05
10	Oats, flaked, loose ..	1 lb. ..	8	0.15
11	Raisins, seeded ..	1-lb. pkt. ..	5	0.34
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	2	0.12
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	1	0.11
14	Peaches, canned ..	30-oz. tin ..	3	0.20
15	Pears, canned ..	30-oz. tin ..	1	0.07
16	Salmon, in tins ..	1-lb. tin ..	3	0.31
17	Potatoes, new and old ..	7 lb. ..	18	1.80
18	Onions, brown ..	1 lb. ..	14	0.19
19	Soap ..	1 lb. ..	16	0.72
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk ..	quart ..	4	0.14

13.84

**SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.**

21	Butter, factory "choicest" ..	1 lb. ..	30	3.73
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild ..	1 lb. ..	4	0.34
23	Eggs, standard, new laid ..	1 doz. ..	6	0.62
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle ..	1 lb. ..	12	1.57
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened ..	1 tin ..	5	0.30
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled ..	quart ..	72	3.15

9.71

**SECTION C.—MEAT.**

27	Beef (fresh)— Sirloin (Roast) ..	1 lb. ..	18	1.33
28	Prime Rib (Roast) including bone ..	1 lb. ..	22	1.32
29	Steak—Rump ..	1 lb. ..	11	1.22
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing) ..	1 lb. ..	20	1.02
31	Sausages ..	1 lb. ..	7	0.28
32	Beef (corned)— Silverside ..	1 lb. ..	14	0.89
33	Brisket, rolled ..	1 lb. ..	15	0.74
34	Mutton (fresh)— Leg ..	1 lb. ..	20	1.00
35	Forequarter ..	1 lb. ..	15	0.45
36	Loin ..	1 lb. ..	4	0.19
37	Chops—Loin ..	1 lb. ..	30	1.68
38	Chops—Leg ..	1 lb. ..	10	0.59
39	Pork (fresh)— Leg ..	1 lb. ..	3	0.24
40	Loin ..	1 lb. ..	3	0.25
41	Chops ..	1 lb. ..	3	0.27

11.47

**GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.**

42	House Accommodation(b) ..	week ..	52(c)	22.73
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22.73

(a) "C" Series continued on page 7.

(b) Four and five roomed houses.

(c) Per household

## Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

## GROUP III.—CLOTHING.\*

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per capita).	No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per capita).
SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.			SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—contd.		
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67	46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
2	Trousers, working, Cotton Tweed (Australian)	2.00	47	Cap, Skull, Cloth .. ..	1.50
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25	48	Shirt, Sports .. ..	5.00
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	1.00	49	Singlet, Wool and Cotton (short sleeves)	1.00
5	Shirt, Fashion, with two collars ..	1.67	51	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
6	Shirt, working—Drill .. ..	4.00	52	Braces .. ..	1.00
7	.. ..	..	53	Stockings, Golf, All Wool ..	4.00
8	Singlet, Wool and Cotton (short sleeves)	1.00	54	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	1.50
9	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00	55	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	0.50
10	Underpants, Wool and Cotton (full length)	1.00	56	Shoes (for best wear), Box Yearling	3.00
11	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts" (plain)	1.00	57	.. ..	..
12	Sox, All Wool (fancy) .. ..	2.00	SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS).		
13	Sox, Wool and Cotton (fancy) ..	4.00	58	Tunic, Wool .. ..	1.00
14	Braces .. ..	1.33	59	.. ..	..
15	Handkerchief, Cotton .. ..	6.00	60	Dress, Cotton .. ..	3.00
16	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	1.50	61	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian) ..	0.33
17	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	1.00	62	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian) ..	1.00
18	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf ..	0.50	63	Hat, Straw .. ..	2.00
19	Boots, working, Box Hide .. ..	1.50	64	.. ..	..
SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.			65	Petticoat, Art Silk .. ..	1.00
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.50	66	Singlet, Silk and Wool .. ..	0.50
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25	67	Singlet, Art Silk .. ..	0.50
22	.. ..	..	68	Bloomers, Cotton and Art Silk, fleecy-lined .. ..	2.00
23	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	0.75	69	Bloomers, Art Silk .. ..	2.00
24	Hat, Straw .. ..	1.50	70	Stockings, Cashmere .. ..	4.00
25	Frock, ready-made, Cotton ..	1.50	71	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	0.33
26	Frock, ready-made, Art Silk ..	4.50	72	Pyjamas, Art Silk .. ..	0.33
27	Brassiere, Cotton Brocade ..	1.50	73	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	0.50
28	Undervest, Wool and Art Silk ..	1.50	74	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
29	Undervest, Art Silk .. ..	1.50	75	Shoes (school), Box Yearling ..	1.50
30	.. ..	..	SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).		
31	Bloomers, Art Silk .. ..	4.50	76	Blouse Coat .. ..	3.00
32	Princess Slip, Art Silk .. ..	1.00	77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
33	Stockings, Silk .. ..	6.00	78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
33A	Stockings, Twin Silk .. ..	3.00	79	Hat, Cloth .. ..	1.33
34	Stockings, Lisle .. ..	3.00	80	Singlet, Wool and Cotton ..	1.00
35	Gloves, Fabric .. ..	2.25	81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
36	Gloves, Nappa .. ..	0.75	82	Sox, Art Silk and Lisle ..	4.00
37	Nightdress, Art Silk .. ..	1.50	83	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	2.00
38	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	1.50	84	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	0.50
39	Dressing Gown, Art Silk ..	0.50	85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
40	Apron, Cotton .. ..	6.00	86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00
41	Cardigan, All Wool .. ..	0.50			
42	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid ..	1.50			
43	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50			
SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).					
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00			
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00			

\* The total cost of each section is multiplied by a section "weight" representing the proportion of the population covered by the section.

## Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

## GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per household).
SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.		
1	Blankets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.07
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair) ..	0.14
3	Quilt, D.B. Marcella ..	0.25
4	.. ..	..
5	Sheets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.50
6	Sheets, S.B. (pair) ..	1.00
7	Pillow Slip, Cotton ..	5.00
8	Towel ..	3.00
9	Table Cloth ..	0.20
10	Tea Towel (yard) ..	4.00

## SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.

11	Cup and Saucer (Stone China) ..	2.00
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China) ..	2.00
13	Jug, Quart (Earthenware) ..	1.00
14	Teapot, Brownware (2-pint) ..	0.25
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6½-inch	1.00
16	Tumbler (8-oz.) ..	1.00
17	Kettle, Enamel (6-pint) ..	0.40
18	.. ..	..
19	Saucepan, Enamel (3-pint) ..	0.40
20	Bucket, Galvanized (12-inch) ..	0.20
21	Dipper, Galvanized (2-quart) ..	0.20
22	Broom, Millet ..	0.50
23	Broom, Hair, complete (12-inch)	0.33
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch) ..	1.50
25	Mop, Polishing, complete ..	0.20

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per household).
SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—continued.		
26	Knife, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
27	Spoon, Tea ..	0.08
28	Spoon, Dessert ..	0.08
29	Fork, Table ..	0.10
30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled)	2.00
31	Iron, Electric (full size) ..	0.10

## SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.

32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (a) ..	40
33	Gas, cooking (units) (a) ..	1,518
34	Electric lighting (units) ..	130
35	Electric power (units) (a) ..	130

No.	Item.	Amount per week (per household).
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## SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.

36	Union Dues ..	d.
37	Lodge Dues ..	(b)
38	Medicine ..	} 24
39	Newspapers ..	
40	Recreation ..	(b)
41	Smoking ..	24
42	Fares ..	(b)
43	School requisites ..	(b)
		4½

(a) Standard mass-units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass-units differ from the standard.

(b) A definite basic amount per week is provided for each of these items, and varied in accordance with Resolution 20 of the Conference of Statisticians, 1936.

3. **The Mass Units.**—The “mass units” or “multipliers” represent the estimated annual consumption per head or per household as the case may be in Australia of the units of quantity shown. Thus the *per capita* consumption of bread in Australia is estimated to be 100 2-lb. loaves and of sugar 100 lb., and the consumption of towels per household is estimated to be three. In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the “mass units” adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. In the case of Housing (Group II.), the “mass unit” is the multiplier applied to the weekly rental to raise it to an annual basis. In the case of Sections E to J, the “mass units” represent the estimated annual consumption per head of the articles mentioned. In the case of Sections K to M, the “mass units” represent the estimated consumption per household; while in Section N are shown the actual amounts provided to cover the estimated cost of the services included for an average household.

It will be noted that the “mass units” are all shown on the basis of consumption per head or per household. In the tabulation for index-number purposes, the figures are weighted on a “total population” basis, by multiplying the aggregate cost of each Group or Section by the relative

numbers of the population properly applicable to it. Thus Group I. (Food and Groceries) is multiplied by the whole population ; Group II. (Housing) by the total number of households ; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportions of the population applicable to each ; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households.

The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they are those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (see § 7, p. 24). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years ; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years ; and the section for the boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the weights given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. Foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen, owing to the fact that comparable prices for a standard grade for these items cannot be obtained ; a further difficulty arises from the seasonal character of their production and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy and stability of the index, and even if accurate information could be obtained, the index would probably not be materially affected by their inclusion. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices. Some of the joints of meat, for example, are not only insufficiently standardized, but anomalies in price are not uncommon. In making these omissions, however, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the more standardized joints.

The estimated annual consumption per head of articles of clothing and miscellaneous household requirements is based largely on the results of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission established what it considered a desirable " regimen " for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its " Indicator List ". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question, was followed substantially in the original compilation of the " All Items " index, but, as old articles were deleted and new ones substituted, appropriate modifications were introduced. In these revisions the principle has been followed of redistributing the mass-units in the manner most conformable to the original findings of the Commission.

The mass-units used for fuel and light are also based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until the September quarter of 1936 flat amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, their chief function—apart from a slight stabilizing influence on the index-numbers—being to vary in accordance with the Commission's findings the relative heights of the index-numbers for the several States. Since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary the amounts set down for three of these items periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

4. **Relative Importance of the Items and Groups.**—The relative importance in the grand aggregate of any item of the regimen will, of course, change slightly with the variation of prices. The relative importance of all the groups and sections in the "All Items" ("C" series) index can be roughly gauged from the figures for Melbourne for the December quarter, 1940, as shown in the following table, while in the last column of the regimen for Group I. (Food and Groceries) on page 3, the relative importance of each item in this group is shown:—

Group.	Section.	Percentage of Total Aggregate Cost.
I. Food and Groceries	{ A Groceries .. .. .	13.84
	{ B Dairy Produce .. .. .	9.71
	{ C Meat .. .. .	11.47
II. Housing .. .. .	D House Rent (4 and 5 rooms) ..	22.73 22.73
III. Clothing .. .. .	{ E Man .. .. .	8.98
	{ F Woman .. .. .	10.42
	{ G Boy, 10½ years .. .. .	1.81
	{ H Girl, 7 years .. .. .	1.20
	{ J Boy, 3½ years .. .. .	0.71
IV. Miscellaneous .. .. .	{ K Household Drapery .. .. .	1.71
	{ L Household Utensils .. .. .	0.55
	{ M Fuel and Light .. .. .	4.88
	{ N Other Miscellaneous .. .. .	11.99
		100.00

5. **Base Periods of the Indexes.**—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "All Items" ("C" series) index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a post-war base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923-27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted aggregate cost of the regimen in the Six Capital Cities during the period taken as base.

Index-numbers on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows:—

(i) **1911 Base.**—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.\* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) **1914 Base.**—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

\* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report from Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics up to No. 155, June, 1938.



The conversion of these index-numbers from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table :—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) ..	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing .. ..	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.33530
All Items ("C" Series)	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the method above will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

**6. The Methods of Tabulation.**—The prices (converted to pence) received from each retailer for each item of the regimen are added together and divided by the number of individual prices. These averages are then multiplied by their respective "mass units". The sum of these products for each section or group of the regimen is then multiplied by the population factor applicable to such section or group. The aggregate so produced for any section, group or combination thereof for the period taken as the base of the indexes is regarded as equal to 1,000. The index-number for any other period is then calculated by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for such period bears to the base aggregate. The various base periods adopted for retail price indexes from time to time are set out in paragraph 5 of this section.

**7. Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers\* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows :—

Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina, etc.	11	Kalg'lie, etc.	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Townsville	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in the March Quarter of 1937.

\* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.

The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual population at that date.

The new weights given above produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

**8. Basis of Retail Price Index-Numbers.**—The foregoing description indicates that these index-numbers are based on a fixed list of items (regimen) of specified grades. This regimen is subject to minor modifications from time to time to maintain the items as far as possible in harmony with current fashion or usage. The "consumption weights" are kept constant over the comparatively long periods which have elapsed between revisions. The weights for food and groceries were originally based on the experience of the years 1906 to 1910, but were revised in 1932, on the basis of *per capita* consumption in the years 1927 to 1929. In the "B" series (food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses) and the "C" series (food and groceries, rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses; clothing and miscellaneous household requirements) indexes, changing distribution of population and households enter into consideration, and the weights were originally based on the 1911 Census, but were revised in 1936, on the basis of the 1933 Census. Excepting for these modifications, therefore, the index-numbers represent the proportionate change in cost from time to time of a constant regimen. They are primarily constructed to measure fluctuations in retail prices of commodities and services which commonly enter into what is colloquially referred to as "cost of living". The regimen does not embrace all items which enter into cost of living, but includes representative items whose grade and price can be ascertained with due precision in the various cities and towns of Australia month by month and quarter by quarter. While the "C" series retail price index-numbers are used by Industrial Tribunals for purposes of assessing the amount of quarterly variation in basic wage rates, the amount of the wage itself is determined by the Court without any regard whatsoever to the retail price regimen or its cost.

### § 3. The Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series) Index of Retail Prices.

**1. General.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled in respect of the year 1925, and index-numbers were retrospectively computed for the several earlier years shown below. It was designed to replace the "A" series index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index first compiled by this Bureau in 1912. Owing, however, to the continued use of the latter index by Industrial Tribunals for the purpose of adjusting wages to variations in retail prices, the "B" series index never replaced the "A" series\* in this connexion.

**2. Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities, 1907 to 1940.**—Index numbers computed separately for each section of the regimen, and the weighted average for all sections together, for the capital city of each State are shown in the next table.

#### Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities. ("B" Series.)

The index-numbers given in the separate sections of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show the relative cost of housing and food and groceries, since each section or combination has its own base, viz., the weighted average cost for the six capital cities taken together during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 for that section or combination.

\* The compilation of this index was discontinued after June quarter, 1938.



**Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities—"B" Series—continued.***(Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)*

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
<b>SECTION A.—GROCERIES.</b>									
Sydney .. ..	510	574	627	1,115	859	872	887	994	968
Melbourne .. ..	461	521	562	1,070	829	829	835	957	927
Brisbane .. ..	547	614	607	1,105	868	869	871	944	942
Adelaide .. ..	510	541	598	1,076	814	838	831	939	913
Perth .. ..	572	720	628	1,103	864	906	897	966	940
Hobart .. ..	501	566	604	1,087	840	871	874	947	930
Weighted Average (a) ..	499	564	599	1,093	846	857	864	969	945
<b>SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.</b>									
Sydney .. ..	551	574	656	1,080	791	817	850	851	864
Melbourne .. ..	571	567	635	1,087	773	813	861	885	880
Brisbane .. ..	495	581	588	983	709	768	791	793	800
Adelaide .. ..	548	651	705	1,018	728	774	802	800	800
Perth .. ..	709	733	735	1,152	816	830	864	870	873
Hobart .. ..	564	587	695	1,091	702	765	802	844	855
Weighted Average (a) ..	563	591	654	1,072	771	807	843	853	857
<b>SECTION C.—MEAT.</b>									
Sydney .. ..	519	501	668	960	881	906	969	935	1,008
Melbourne .. ..	557	485	663	1,030	809	857	966	968	1,028
Brisbane .. ..	535	488	610	897	764	825	834	822	898
Adelaide .. ..	553	541	784	1,095	839	851	950	929	972
Perth .. ..	789	824	881	1,103	867	887	926	958	1,026
Hobart .. ..	668	638	780	1,244	928	964	957	961	1,041
Weighted Average (a) ..	558	522	691	1,010	842	877	948	936	1,002
<b>SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.</b>									
Sydney .. ..	523	553	646	1,062	848	868	904	936	952
Melbourne .. ..	517	523	610	1,063	809	836	884	942	947
Brisbane .. ..	530	569	603	1,014	791	828	838	864	889
Adelaide .. ..	532	570	670	1,066	798	826	861	897	900
Perth .. ..	670	753	728	1,116	853	881	899	938	949
Hobart .. ..	565	592	678	1,133	827	870	880	923	944
Weighted Average (a) ..	533	559	640	1,064	825	851	886	927	939
<b>SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).</b>									
Sydney .. ..	593	701	760	989	930	965	1,004	1,035	1,042
Melbourne .. ..	455	569	628	820	882	909	935	955	969
Brisbane .. ..	283	373	466	630	766	822	841	854	857
Adelaide .. ..	510	706	655	809	795	832	868	888	892
Perth .. ..	458	524	589	739	844	861	872	881	882
Hobart .. ..	405	452	518	881	908	899	913	925	933
Weighted Average (a) ..	497	612	662	862	879	912	942	965	973
<b>ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.</b>									
Sydney .. ..	548	606	687	1,036	878	904	941	972	985
Melbourne .. ..	495	539	616	977	835	862	902	945	953
Brisbane .. ..	442	500	554	877	781	824	838	858	875
Adelaide .. ..	524	618	671	975	796	826	862	891	895
Perth .. ..	594	672	679	982	849	871	887	914	921
Hobart .. ..	508	542	621	1,044	856	879	891	922	938
Weighted Average (a) ..	520	578	648	992	844	872	906	939	950

(a) For Six Capital Cities.

3. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns, 1936 to 1941.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the prices of food and groceries (41 commodities) in 30 of the more important towns at yearly, quarterly and monthly intervals. In addition, index-numbers are given showing for the years specified the quarterly and yearly variations in house rents (4 and 5-rooms) and in the combined prices of food, groceries and housing.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series).

(Base of each Section (a) : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1936 ..	848	860	949	841	838	851	809	839	824	806	823	810
1937 ..	868	880	1,001	874	855	872	836	857	851	834	834	837
1938 ..	904	925	1,092	933	898	909	881	882	889	889	891	884
1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
1940 ..	952	985	1,069	1,00	951	958	947	935	949	939	955	946
1940 Mar. Qtr.	933	961	1,052	978	928	938	922	918	919	918	933	922
June ..	957	985	1,074	1,013	960	962	954	943	956	946	962	954
Sept. ..	945	980	1,061	1,002	950	950	949	936	958	944	960	949
Dec. ..	974	1,015	1,089	1,019	966	980	961	941	963	948	964	960
1941 Mar. Qtr.	982	1,014	1,152	1,016	967	988	949	936	953	940	951	948
June ..	949	992	1,133	1,007	954	957	938	923	943	918	941	937
1910.												
January ..	925	953	1,046	973	919	930	909	911	907	907	928	909
February ..	931	960	1,050	979	921	936	922	920	916	920	932	921
March ..	942	972	1,057	985	947	947	935	923	933	929	938	934
April ..	958	986	1,074	1,004	962	972	947	939	953	941	953	947
May ..	962	986	1,073	1,019	959	958	958	946	957	948	964	957
June ..	951	983	1,074	1,015	958	957	959	944	958	948	970	958
July ..	942	973	1,076	1,002	952	948	949	934	956	944	958	949
August ..	941	974	1,047	1,000	950	946	944	933	957	940	956	944
September ..	950	993	1,060	1,004	950	956	954	939	963	948	966	953
October ..	969	1,012	1,064	1,013	959	974	957	934	959	944	966	956
November ..	973	1,014	1,107	1,020	963	979	963	940	964	950	962	962
December ..	982	1,019	1,095	1,024	977	987	964	950	967	950	965	963
1941.												
January ..	1,005	1,025	1,160	1,028	980	1,009	969	958	968	956	968	968
February ..	973	1,013	1,151	1,012	962	979	943	928	950	936	948	943
March ..	968	1,004	1,145	1,008	958	975	935	923	942	928	938	935
April ..	963	999	1,147	1,011	961	970	946	923	946	927	943	944
May ..	948	993	1,131	1,008	955	956	936	924	942	919	943	935
June ..	936	983	1,121	1,002	946	944	932	921	941	908	939	931

## HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).

1936 ..	930	857	653	879	814	918	882	683	702	861	836	869
1937 ..	965	830	669	873	816	947	909	699	720	836	859	894
1938 ..	1,004	860	730	873	822	985	935	695	709	851	915	917
1939 ..	1,035	800	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
1940 ..	1,042	900	778	872	845	1,023	969	705	735	884	933	950
1940 Mar. Qtr.	1,041	899	776	870	845	1,022	964	706	735	880	931	946
June ..	1,041	899	778	872	845	1,022	967	704	734	883	933	949
Sept. ..	1,042	901	777	872	845	1,023	970	704	735	884	933	951
Dec. ..	1,042	901	779	874	845	1,023	973	704	736	888	936	954
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	901	779	875	845	1,024	976	705	737	892	938	957
June ..	1,043	901	772	880	845	1,024	974	705	737	892	939	956

## FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.

1936 ..	878	858	837	854	829	875	835	780	777	825	827	831
1937 ..	904	858	869	872	838	899	862	794	798	833	842	857
1938 ..	941	898	948	908	867	937	902	808	817	872	898	895
1939 ..	972	934	970	942	900	909	945	849	851	917	940	938
1940 ..	985	950	953	950	908	980	953	843	864	915	944	946
1940 Mar. Qtr.	973	935	942	934	893	968	936	833	845	901	930	929
June ..	988	949	956	955	913	983	957	848	867	919	949	950
Sept. ..	980	947	948	949	907	976	955	843	809	919	947	948
Dec. ..	998	968	965	960	917	994	964	847	873	922	951	950
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,003	968	1,004	959	917	999	957	844	867	919	944	950
June ..	984	954	990	955	909	981	950	836	861	906	938	942

(a) See explanatory note on page 9.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series)—continued.

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Rundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1936 ..	791	761	846	880b	781c	795	798	874	864	804	838	803
1937 ..	828	794	863	901	869	835	826	901	912	845	870	832
1938 ..	838	794	879	931	884	846	861	907	937	877	900	866
1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
1940 ..	889	852	921	969	931	896	900	967	985	919	976	906
1940 Mar. Qtr.	874	831	918	961	921	882	881	951	965	895	961	887
June "	883	852	927	977	932	892	913	969	995	926	984	918
Sept. "	879	841	908	963	918	885	902	969	985	922	974	908
Dec. "	920	883	931	974	954	923	903	979	993	932	985	910
1941 Mar. Qtr.	933	878	952	1,004	969	936	918	970	995	922	980	923
June "	899	851	924	972	952	904	897	958	1,002	911	970	904
1940.												
January ..	868	823	918	959	914	876	872	956	951	897	957	879
February ..	877	829	917	956	925	883	883	948	961	893	960	889
March ..	877	839	910	966	926	885	888	946	980	924	963	894
April ..	889	858	934	982	938	898	900	961	995	910	988	906
May ..	882	850	929	982	935	892	919	969	991	932	980	924
June ..	877	847	920	967	922	885	919	977	999	935	985	925
July ..	866	837	906	969	915	876	900	969	990	925	973	906
August ..	878	840	906	965	918	884	904	968	982	918	973	910
September ..	892	847	911	956	920	895	900	971	982	922	975	906
October ..	909	865	914	956	941	910	903	972	989	927	984	909
November ..	909	877	918	961	951	912	911	988	996	929	991	917
December ..	943	907	961	1,006	970	947	897	976	994	939	980	904
1941.												
January ..	956	918	968	1,014	981	959	908	973	995	927	984	914
February ..	926	860	949	1,009	970	930	926	972	993	924	980	930
March ..	916	855	939	990	957	920	920	966	998	915	977	925
April ..	912	855	928	977	955	915	908	953	996	913	968	913
May ..	899	851	927	971	954	904	895	953	1,006	912	974	902
June ..	887	846	916	968	948	893	889	966	1,005	908	968	897

## HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).

1936 ..	766	798	608	510b	622c	748	795	381	629	648	721	772
1937 ..	822	840	728	844	575	810	832	371	659	685	737	808
1938 ..	841	834	744	857	626	828	868	386	689	687	739	843
1939 ..	854	847	753	861	640	840	888	388	710	686	753	862
1940 ..	857	852	755	861	642	843	892	387	716	692	773	866
1940 Mar. Qtr.	855	850	754	862	643	841	892	387	716	687	774	865
June "	857	850	755	861	643	843	892	387	716	690	774	866
Sept. "	858	850	755	860	641	844	892	387	716	690	772	866
Dec. "	859	859	755	861	642	844	892	387	715	699	772	866
1941 Mar. Qtr.	859	853	757	861	643	845	893	387	715	701	770	866
June "	860	854	764	861	642	846	893	386	714	709	770	867

## FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.

1936 ..	781	774	757	741b	721c	777	796	689	775	745	793	791
1937 ..	824	810	808	877	752	823	826	692	811	780	816	821
1938 ..	838	806	825	900	781	837	862	702	838	801	836	855
1939 ..	858	830	843	920	804	858	891	743	882	838	890	885
1940 ..	875	849	854	925	817	873	895	739	877	828	895	888
1940 Mar. Qtr.	865	836	852	920	811	864	883	729	865	812	886	877
June "	871	849	858	929	817	871	903	740	884	831	900	896
Sept. "	869	843	846	921	808	867	896	740	878	829	893	889
Dec. "	894	869	860	928	830	890	897	746	882	838	900	891
1941 Mar. Qtr.	902	866	874	946	840	899	906	741	883	834	896	899
June "	882	850	859	927	829	879	894	733	888	830	890	887

(a) See note on page 9.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series)—continued.

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, 6 Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.		
FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
1936 ..	853	998	898	866	910	866	827	806	847	831	898	824	825	828
1937 ..	881	1,012	928	891	961	892	870	857	902	891	927	870	851	854
1938 ..	899	1,049	935	918	925	911	880	889	916	908	975	889	886	890
1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931
1940 ..	949	1,104	986	969	952	961	944	933	961	959	1,029	945	939	942
1940 Mar. Qtr.	920	1,072	951	945	923	932	918	907	930	929	1,010	919	917	921
June ..	956	1,089	981	975	941	966	935	932	945	945	1,024	938	944	947
Sept. ..	971	1,125	1,013	981	969	983	951	940	972	972	1,030	952	937	941
Dec. ..	949	1,130	997	973	976	964	972	954	996	991	1,052	971	956	960
1941 Mar. Qtr.	955	1,156	1,010	981	985	972	972	952	995	993	1,061	971	958	962
June ..	997	1,181	1,054	1,003	1,002	1,012	958	950	997	982	1,045	961	939	943
1940.														
January ..	912	1,065	945	941	921	925	913	897	924	924	1,003	912	908	912
February ..	919	1,074	952	944	924	932	924	910	930	927	1,007	923	917	920
March ..	928	1,075	954	948	923	939	918	913	935	934	1,018	921	927	930
April ..	953	1,080	971	964	930	962	932	933	947	940	1,020	936	945	948
May ..	954	1,091	983	981	942	965	936	932	936	941	1,026	938	944	947
June ..	961	1,095	989	981	952	972	938	933	953	953	1,026	941	944	947
July ..	981	1,097	1,019	985	958	990	936	933	966	966	1,018	940	935	939
August ..	971	1,136	1,012	979	976	984	956	938	974	977	1,038	955	935	938
September ..	961	1,142	1,009	979	972	976	962	949	976	981	1,034	962	942	945
October ..	949	1,133	997	972	975	995	973	947	985	986	1,037	968	951	954
November ..	948	1,127	995	970	975	963	973	953	998	996	1,052	971	956	959
December ..	950	1,131	999	976	978	966	970	962	1,004	991	1,067	973	961	965
1941.														
January ..	948	1,143	1,004	979	982	964	978	956	1,006	1,002	1,068	976	975	978
February ..	953	1,163	1,013	979	982	971	980	950	984	987	1,054	974	953	957
March ..	964	1,164	1,013	986	991	981	958	951	997	989	1,061	962	947	951
April ..	984	1,189	1,049	999	997	1,000	966	956	996	986	1,067	969	949	952
May ..	1,006	1,210	1,061	1,007	1,003	1,022	953	957	1,001	991	1,048	961	938	943
June ..	1,003	1,144	1,051	1,002	1,007	1,014	953	936	995	968	1,019	952	930	935
HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).														
1936 ..	844	1,174	794	886	1,010	872	908	811	750	726	755	858	879	866
1937 ..	861	1,309	860	983	1,064	901	899	826	816	723	798	861	912	897
1938 ..	872	1,319	879	994	1,055	911	913	838	830	756	788	875	942	925
1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	910	925	851	836	703	806	887	965	947
1940 ..	882	1,315	890	1,003	1,066	920	933	856	847	767	813	893	973	955
1940 Mar. Qtr.	883	1,314	888	1,005	1,065	921	932	855	850	767	814	893	971	953
June ..	882	1,316	890	1,004	1,067	920	932	855	848	767	812	893	972	954
Sept. ..	882	1,314	890	1,001	1,067	919	933	855	846	765	812	893	973	955
Dec. ..	882	1,314	890	1,001	1,066	920	933	857	842	769	812	894	974	956
1941 Mar. Qtr.	882	1,313	893	1,000	1,066	920	933	858	842	769	812	894	976	958
June ..	883	1,311	893	1,002	1,066	920	933	858	842	768	812	894	976	958
FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.														
1936 ..	849	1,064	858	873	945	867	856	807	810	790	844	835	844	841
1937 ..	871	1,126	899	924	999	894	879	843	866	824	874	865	872	869
1938 ..	887	1,152	911	945	974	909	891	867	880	846	900	882	906	902
1939 ..	914	1,178	936	979	990	936	922	887	898	865	933	908	939	935
1940 ..	921	1,184	946	979	995	943	938	901	914	882	942	923	950	945
1940 Mar. Qtr.	903	1,166	924	966	976	926	922	885	897	864	931	907	936	931
June ..	925	1,175	943	984	988	946	932	900	905	873	939	919	953	948
Sept. ..	934	1,196	963	986	1,005	956	942	905	921	889	943	927	949	944
Dec. ..	921	1,200	953	981	1,009	945	954	914	934	902	956	939	961	956
1941 Mar. Qtr.	925	1,215	962	986	1,015	949	954	913	934	903	961	939	963	958
June ..	951	1,229	989	1,000	1,025	974	946	912	935	896	952	933	951	947

(a) See note on page 9.

### § 4. The All Items ("C" Series) Index of Retail Prices.

1. **General.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries, rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements, and for convenience of reference has been designated the "All Items" ("C" series) index. It has become more important in recent years because of its adoption by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court from 1st May, 1934, for the adjustment of wages controlled by that Court. It is used at present as the basis of the "Court" series of index-numbers adopted from July, 1937, by the same Court.

The compilation of this series was undertaken by the Bureau following a recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. A short account of its inquiries and findings is contained in § 7 of this chapter. The Commission itself had collected data on prices in the capital cities for the month of November, 1914 to 1920 inclusive. In consequence, the Bureau commenced its own more comprehensive inquiries in the five principal towns of each State, as from November, 1921, and continued them at quarterly intervals thereafter.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities, 1914 to 1920.**—The table published on page 24 gives index-numbers representing the variations in the prices, in each capital city, of (i) food and groceries; (ii) housing (4 and 5 rooms); (iii) food, groceries and housing combined; (iv) clothing; (v) miscellaneous household requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined, in the years 1914 to 1920 inclusive. The index-numbers for the clothing and miscellaneous groups for these years were compiled from data collected by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage.

3. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns, November, 1914 to June Quarter 1941.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the prices, in 30 of the more important towns, of (i) food and groceries; (ii) housing; (iii) food, groceries and housing combined; (iv) clothing; (v) miscellaneous requirements; and (vi) all items of household consumption combined.

#### Food and Groceries.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1935 ..	840	860	935	822	824	843	784	812	809	797	816	786
" 1936 ..	818	860	949	841	838	851	809	839	824	806	823	810
" 1937 ..	868	880	1,001	874	855	872	836	857	851	834	834	837
" 1938 ..	904	925	1,092	933	898	909	884	882	889	889	891	884
" 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
" 1940 ..	952	985	1,069	1,003	951	958	947	935	949	939	955	946
1940 Mar. Qtr.	933	961	1,052	978	928	938	922	918	919	918	933	922
" June "	957	985	1,074	1,013	960	962	954	943	956	946	962	954
" Sept. "	945	980	1,061	1,002	950	950	949	936	958	944	960	949
" Dec. "	974	1,015	1,089	1,019	966	980	961	941	963	948	964	960
1941 Mar. Qtr.	982	1,014	1,152	1,016	967	988	949	936	953	940	951	948
" June "	949	992	1,133	1,007	954	957	938	923	943	918	941	937

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 22.



## Food and Groceries.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series)—continued.

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27=1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rock-hampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	614	595	599	581b	536c	550	683	941	945	968	923	997
" 1921 ..	955	895	949	981b	936c	950	683	941	945	968	923	997
Year 1935 ..	763	732	803	849b	754c	765	780	860	813	813	777	812
" 1936 ..	701	761	846	880b	781c	795	798	874	864	804	838	784
" 1937 ..	828	794	863	901	869	835	826	901	912	845	870	832
" 1938 ..	838	794	879	931	884	846	861	907	937	877	900	866
" 1939 ..	864	823	904	901	912	872	897	973	996	937	951	904
" 1940 ..	889	852	921	969	931	896	900	967	985	919	976	906
1940 Mar. Qtr.	874	831	918	961	921	882	881	951	965	895	951	887
" June "	883	852	927	977	932	892	913	969	983	926	984	908
" Sept. "	879	841	908	963	918	885	902	969	985	922	974	910
" Dec. "	920	883	931	974	954	923	903	979	993	932	983	
1941 Mar. Qtr.	933	878	952	1,004	969	936	918	970	995	922	980	923
" June "	899	851	924	972	952	904	897	958	1,002	911	970	904
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.					Hobart.	TASMANIA.					Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.		Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.	
Nov. 1914 (a)	746	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	641	564
" 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054	1,049	1,031	1,027	958	1,168	966	1,077	1,011	
Year 1935 ..	821	977	852	856	846	792	789	830	808	905	797	806
" 1936 ..	853	968	858	866	910	837	866	847	831	898	824	810
" 1937 ..	881	1,012	881	891	901	892	857	902	891	927	870	828
" 1938 ..	899	1,049	935	918	925	911	880	859	916	968	889	854
" 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	911	933	925	860
" 1940 ..	949	1,104	986	969	952	961	944	933	959	1,029	945	891
1940 Mar. Qtr.	920	1,072	951	945	923	918	907	930	920	1,010	910	917
" June "	956	1,069	981	975	941	935	932	943	945	1,024	938	947
" Sept. "	971	1,115	1,013	981	969	951	930	943	973	1,030	952	941
" Dec. "	949	1,130	997	973	976	972	954	990	991	1,052	971	956
1941 Mar. Qtr.	925	1,166	1,010	981	985	972	952	995	993	1,061	971	958
" June "	997	1,181	1,054	1,003	1,002	958	950	997	982	1,045	961	939
												962
												943

(a) For index numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 22.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.



## Food, Groceries and Housing Combined (4 and 5 rooms).—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B"(d) and "C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	680	..	..	..	..	..	613	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	977	944	825	926	815	965	895	769	780	844	855	866
Year 1935 ..	858	853	832	835	808	857	808	760	766	802	826	805
" 1936 ..	878	858	837	854	829	875	835	780	777	825	827	831
" 1937 ..	904	858	869	872	838	899	862	794	798	833	842	857
" 1938 ..	941	898	948	908	867	937	902	808	817	872	898	895
" 1939 ..	972	934	970	942	900	999	945	849	851	917	940	938
" 1940 ..	985	950	953	950	908	980	953	843	864	915	944	946
1940 Mar. Qtr.	973	935	942	934	893	968	936	833	845	901	930	929
" June "	988	949	956	955	913	983	957	848	867	919	949	950
" Sept. "	980	947	948	949	907	976	953	843	869	919	947	948
" Dec. "	998	968	965	960	917	994	964	847	873	922	951	956
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,004	968	1,004	959	917	999	957	844	867	919	944	950
" June "	984	954	990	955	909	981	950	836	861	906	938	942
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	560	..	..	..	..	..	658	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	840	771	779	820b	794c	824	898	811	839	770	844	885
Year 1935 ..	747	737	730	736b	716c	745	764	694	746	723	759	761
" 1936 ..	781	774	757	741b	721c	777	796	689	775	745	793	791
" 1937 ..	824	810	808	877	752	823	826	692	811	780	816	821
" 1938 ..	838	806	825	900	781	837	862	702	838	801	836	855
" 1939 ..	858	830	843	920	804	858	891	743	882	838	890	885
" 1940 ..	875	849	854	925	817	873	895	739	877	828	895	888
1940 Mar. Qtr.	865	836	852	920	811	864	883	729	865	812	886	877
" June "	871	849	858	929	817	871	903	740	884	831	900	896
" Sept. "	869	843	846	921	808	867	896	740	878	829	893	889
" Dec. "	894	869	860	928	830	890	897	746	882	838	900	891
1941 Mar. Qtr.	902	866	874	946	840	899	906	741	883	834	896	899
" June "	882	850	859	927	829	879	894	733	888	830	890	887
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.
Nov. 1914 (a)	689	..	..	..	..	..	630	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	916	928	898	907	942	918	971	858	819	696	871	911
Year 1935 ..	810	1,003	822	836	879	826	827	785	783	783	843	811
" 1936 ..	849	1,064	858	875	945	867	856	807	810	790	844	835
" 1937 ..	871	1,126	899	924	909	894	879	843	866	824	874	865
" 1938 ..	887	1,155	911	945	974	909	891	867	880	846	900	882
" 1939 ..	914	1,178	936	979	990	936	922	887	898	865	933	908
" 1940 ..	921	1,184	946	979	995	943	938	901	914	882	942	923
1940 Mar. Qtr.	903	1,166	924	966	976	926	922	885	897	864	931	907
" June "	925	1,175	943	984	988	946	932	900	905	873	939	919
" Sept. "	934	1,190	963	986	1,005	956	942	905	921	889	943	927
" Dec. "	921	1,200	953	981	1,009	945	954	914	934	902	956	939
1941 Mar. Qtr.	925	1,215	962	986	1,015	949	954	913	934	903	961	939
" June "	951	1,229	989	1,000	1,025	974	946	912	935	896	952	933
											963	951
											944	956
											936	931
											933	948
											949	944
											963	956
											951	947

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 22. (b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

(d) The index-numbers in this table are the same as those of the "B" Series (p. 10).



**Clothing.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)**

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.							
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnam-bool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,573	1,463	1,612	1,326		
Year 1935 ..	746	810	680	922	790	751	794	856	884	843	912	801		
" 1936 ..	778	809	753	878	811	782	791	845	816	834	863	795		
" 1937 ..	818	796	824	833	812	817	803	831	819	809	822	805		
" 1938 ..	833	810	833	848	824	831	820	843	832	833	831	822		
" 1939 ..	843	823	850	861	840	842	832	851	841	846	842	833		
" 1940 ..	950	941	970	960	964	951	969	990	986	963	966	970		
1940 Mar. Qtr.	884	862	902	899	897	883	897	921	911	893	909	898		
" June ..	923	921	952	933	925	924	959	965	966	949	948	959		
" Sept. ..	946	942	971	953	963	949	976	1,005	1,003	963	965	977		
" Dec. ..	1,046	1,037	1,056	1,069	1,069	1,046	1,042	1,069	1,065	1,047	1,043	1,044		
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,058	1,043	1,068	1,081	1,079	1,058	1,068	1,092	1,073	1,071	1,068	1,069		
" June ..	1,109	1,110	1,115	1,136	1,133	1,110	1,100	1,122	1,101	1,104	1,105	1,101		
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.							
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568b	1,519c	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238		
Year 1935 ..	772	818	824	761b	791c	779	853	810	803	937	927	852		
" 1936 ..	777	779	831	794b	767c	782	833	803	819	890	851	832		
" 1937 ..	794	805	826	812	806	799	821	804	811	818	814	820		
" 1938 ..	823	826	840	833	831	825	857	848	846	846	844	856		
" 1939 ..	840	838	856	855	852	843	863	852	854	852	844	862		
" 1940 ..	952	951	973	968	956	955	961	940	943	947	936	959		
1940 Mar. Qtr.	894	888	912	915	904	897	895	877	882	877	866	893		
" June ..	930	921	948	945	931	932	934	910	909	910	899	932		
" Sept. ..	956	953	971	968	957	958	972	953	953	962	955	971		
" Dec. ..	1,027	1,043	1,059	1,043	1,031	1,032	1,041	1,019	1,029	1,039	1,025	1,040		
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,037	1,050	1,074	1,063	1,048	1,043	1,052	1,025	1,043	1,052	1,036	1,051		
" June ..	1,103	1,110	1,132	1,123	1,116	1,107	1,115	1,074	1,102	1,109	1,104	1,113		
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.							
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tas.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
Nov. 1914 (a)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..	754	..
" 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525	1,405	1,504	1,513	1,246	1,290
Year 1935 ..	845	1,056	775	911	839	843	903	938	813	827	987	910	783	790
" 1936 ..	815	959	802	878	851	827	857	873	807	826	875	859	792	796
" 1937 ..	806	832	819	828	827	809	821	823	820	832	820	822	811	811
" 1938 ..	823	846	835	845	841	826	848	839	835	845	842	844	829	830
" 1939 ..	832	855	842	849	847	834	856	853	843	844	853	854	841	841
" 1940 ..	926	959	933	938	936	929	956	964	947	938	943	957	956	956
1940 Mar. Qtr.	853	869	856	863	862	854	888	893	883	879	885	889	888	888
" June ..	913	954	924	931	923	917	949	949	930	921	923	941	936	936
" Sept. ..	926	967	932	933	935	929	956	963	946	938	935	956	959	960
" Dec. ..	1,070	1,046	1,020	1,024	1,022	1,014	1,038	1,051	1,030	1,013	1,027	1,040	1,040	1,041
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,029	1,059	1,036	1,045	1,037	1,032	1,050	1,069	1,041	1,026	1,036	1,054	1,057	1,057
" June ..	1,075	1,111	1,089	1,093	1,086	1,079	1,123	1,117	1,103	1,125	1,125	1,121	1,104	1,105

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 22. (b) Charters Towers.  
(c) Warwick.

**Miscellaneous.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)**  
 (Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Year 1935 ..	976	927	964	868	867	970	922	880	922	873	851	918
" 1936 ..	949	900	1,007	887	881	945	947	958	977	947	922	948
" 1937 ..	939	895	1,061	901	902	937	978	1,006	1,011	995	953	980
" 1938 ..	936	903	1,053	909	892	935	982	1,006	1,011	994	954	983
" 1939 ..	940	901	1,048	908	888	936	977	990	1,004	980	951	978
" 1940 ..	984	948	1,101	942	936	982	1,009	1,023	1,037	1,011	985	1,010
1940 Mar. Qtr.	949	919	1,072	918	903	948	988	1,009	1,021	997	975	990
" June "	985	950	1,105	942	937	984	1,010	1,019	1,031	1,007	978	1,007
" Sept. "	996	958	1,109	949	947	994	1,006	1,032	1,045	1,010	989	1,020
" Dec. "	1,004	964	1,116	960	955	1,003	1,021	1,033	1,050	1,021	998	1,022
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,030	988	1,141	995	983	1,029	1,047	1,060	1,076	1,042	1,024	1,047
" June "	1,039	982	1,148	998	988	1,036	1,051	1,070	1,079	1,047	1,029	1,052
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009 <sup>b</sup>	988 <sup>c</sup>	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036
Year 1935 ..	904	909	877	1,015 <sup>b</sup>	929 <sup>c</sup>	905	973	941	921	937	968	969
" 1936 ..	917	920	920	1,067 <sup>b</sup>	993 <sup>c</sup>	922	993	978	936	970	1,003	991
" 1937 ..	941	988	969	1,000	1,007	952	1,022	981	995	1,013	1,015	1,020
" 1938 ..	947	990	971	1,000	1,001	957	1,023	991	1,001	1,017	1,011	1,021
" 1939 ..	955	983	966	996	992	962	1,022	989	999	1,017	994	1,019
" 1940 ..	979	1,003	1,001	1,026	1,002	985	1,051	1,021	1,031	1,053	1,015	1,049
1940 Mar. Qtr.	967	989	982	1,005	984	972	1,038	1,007	1,011	1,035	1,000	1,035
" June "	978	1,002	996	1,023	1,000	984	1,049	1,013	1,028	1,050	1,011	1,047
" Sept. "	983	1,008	1,004	1,031	1,007	990	1,055	1,028	1,043	1,061	1,021	1,054
" Dec. "	986	1,012	1,020	1,043	1,016	995	1,060	1,034	1,040	1,064	1,027	1,059
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,012	1,038	1,043	1,066	1,044	1,021	1,089	1,067	1,076	1,089	1,050	1,087
" June "	1,020	1,052	1,051	1,074	1,052	1,029	1,109	1,087	1,090	1,104	1,060	1,107
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tas.
Nov. 1914 (a)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941	960	959	952
Year 1935 ..	927	975	925	909	972	931	856	864	793	831	824	855
" 1936 ..	932	990	946	906	1,002	937	883	908	839	859	841	887
" 1937 ..	946	971	953	903	1,058	950	939	947	869	876	854	933
" 1938 ..	949	968	953	909	1,053	951	933	939	866	867	843	927
" 1939 ..	954	974	948	912	1,034	956	938	947	874	882	881	934
" 1940 ..	985	1,006	975	942	1,053	987	969	973	904	898	919	993
1940 Mar. Qtr.	967	984	952	924	1,028	968	958	960	892	887	905	951
" June "	986	1,006	975	942	1,052	988	971	968	901	894	914	962
" Sept. "	992	1,012	984	946	1,063	993	971	980	908	901	920	966
" Dec. "	995	1,022	988	954	1,070	997	977	983	915	909	938	972
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,023	1,049	1,013	980	1,097	1,025	999	1,003	937	934	960	994
" June "	1,037	1,064	1,030	989	1,107	1,039	1,006	1,007	941	940	963	999
												1,039
												1,047
												1,038
												1,046

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 22.  
 (c) Warwick.

(b) Charters Towers.

## All Items of Household Expenditure.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
Year 1935 ..	852	856	819	860	814	852	824	803	820	824	850	824
" 1936 ..	866	853	848	864	833	865	844	826	821	848	851	843
" 1937 ..	889	849	893	867	842	886	868	839	840	855	856	866
" 1938 ..	913	877	940	893	860	911	896	850	854	884	892	893
" 1939 ..	936	901	955	916	883	933	924	874	875	911	918	920
" 1940 ..	974	945	981	949	923	972	964	906	920	941	954	960
1940 Mar. Qtr.	946	914	954	921	894	943	934	882	889	915	931	930
" June ..	970	941	980	946	918	968	963	903	916	939	951	959
" Sept. ..	973	945	980	947	924	970	968	911	928	944	956	964
" Dec. ..	1,008	981	1,011	980	956	1,005	989	928	946	966	978	985
1941 Mar. Qtr.	1,018	986	1,041	990	963	1,015	996	936	949	974	984	992
" June ..	1,019	991	1,044	1,001	971	1,017	999	940	952	974	990	995
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025b	994c	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
Year 1935 ..	780	785	776	789b	769c	780	820	763	789	809	833	817
" 1936 ..	804	802	802	810b	779c	803	839	765	813	818	843	835
" 1937 ..	837	840	840	883	809	840	859	769	844	830	851	855
" 1938 ..	852	843	853	902	831	854	888	786	868	849	868	883
" 1939 ..	870	858	867	918	847	871	906	810	896	872	897	902
" 1940 ..	908	898	905	950	879	909	936	833	919	894	924	931
1940 Mar. Qtr.	887	874	887	932	860	888	912	811	894	866	901	907
" June ..	900	890	900	947	873	902	934	826	914	887	918	929
" Sept. ..	906	895	900	949	875	906	939	838	923	899	928	935
" Dec. ..	938	932	932	972	907	939	937	858	943	923	950	953
1941 Mar. Qtr.	950	937	947	991	921	951	970	862	953	928	954	965
" June ..	954	943	953	995	931	955	981	872	971	941	967	976
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queensdown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.
Nov. 1914 (a)	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	1,057
Year 1935 ..	834	1,011	829	865	886	848	849	834	792	801	873	841
" 1936 ..	850	1,027	860	880	933	870	860	840	814	809	850	850
" 1937 ..	869	1,030	890	897	970	884	875	856	854	833	857	866
" 1938 ..	882	1,048	900	914	957	897	887	872	865	848	875	879
" 1939 ..	901	1,066	915	936	965	915	908	888	879	861	903	898
" 1940 ..	932	1,099	947	962	990	946	945	926	917	896	936	936
1940 Mar. Qtr.	902	1,064	912	934	958	916	918	898	890	869	914	909
" June ..	932	1,092	943	963	983	945	938	921	907	886	929	929
" Sept. ..	941	1,109	958	963	998	955	948	929	911	900	935	938
" Dec. ..	953	1,131	973	985	1,022	969	976	955	950	927	967	966
1941 Mar. Qtr.	965	1,148	987	997	1,033	981	982	963	956	935	976	975
" June ..	993	1,170	1,017	1,017	1,052	1,008	994	973	971	935	991	985
												1,000
												995
												998

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see p. 22.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.) All Items of Household Consumption.

## Relative Cost of Each Group of Items.

(Base : Weighted Average Cost of All Groups in each Town = 1,000.)

Town.	1939.					1940.				
	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Total Household Expenditure.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Total Household Expenditure.
<b>New South Wales—</b>										
Sydney .. ..	360	255	199	186	1,000	352	248	215	185	1,000
Newcastle .. ..	386	228	201	185	1,000	376	220	219	185	1,000
Broken Hill .. ..	418	184	195	203	1,000	392	184	217	207	1,000
Goulburn .. ..	390	220	206	184	1,000	381	213	223	183	1,000
Bathurst .. ..	383	221	210	186	1,000	372	211	230	187	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	363	252	198	187	1,000	355	243	215	187	1,000
<b>Victoria—</b>										
Melbourne .. ..	368	239	197	196	1,000	354	233	220	193	1,000
Ballarat .. ..	387	189	214	210	1,000	371	180	239	210	1,000
Bendigo .. ..	383	194	210	213	1,000	372	185	235	208	1,000
Geelong .. ..	375	222	204	199	1,000	359	217	225	199	1,000
Warrnambool .. ..	375	232	201	192	1,000	361	226	222	191	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	368	236	199	197	1,000	354	229	222	195	1,000
<b>Queensland—</b>										
Brisbane .. ..	357	227	213	203	1,000	352	218	230	200	1,000
Toowoomba .. ..	345	228	215	212	1,000	342	218	233	207	1,000
Rockhampton .. ..	375	201	218	206	1,000	367	192	235	206	1,000
Townsville .. ..	377	217	205	201	1,000	368	209	223	200	1,000
Bundaberg .. ..	387	175	221	217	1,000	381	170	238	211	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	361	222	213	204	1,000	354	215	230	201	1,000
<b>South Australia—</b>										
Adelaide .. ..	357	226	208	209	1,000	347	220	227	206	1,000
Kadina, etc. .. ..	432	111	231	226	1,000	418	108	247	227	1,000
Port Pirie .. ..	401	183	210	206	1,000	387	179	226	208	1,000
Mount Gambier .. ..	387	182	215	216	1,000	370	178	234	218	1,000
Peterborough .. ..	394	194	207	205	1,000	380	194	223	203	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	361	221	208	210	1,000	350	215	227	208	1,000
<b>Western Australia—</b>										
Perth, etc. .. ..	375	225	203	197	1,000	367	219	219	195	1,000
Kalgoorlie, etc. .. ..	369	286	176	169	1,000	362	277	192	169	1,000
Northam .. ..	383	224	202	191	1,000	375	217	218	190	1,000
Bunbury .. ..	372	248	200	180	1,000	363	240	215	182	1,000
Geraldton .. ..	353	255	194	198	1,000	346	249	208	197	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	374	233	200	193	1,000	366	225	217	192	1,000
<b>Tasmania—</b>										
Hobart .. ..	366	235	207	192	1,000	360	228	222	190	1,000
Launceston .. ..	370	222	211	197	1,000	363	214	229	194	1,000
Burnie .. ..	386	219	210	185	1,000	377	214	227	182	1,000
Devonport .. ..	390	205	216	189	1,000	386	198	231	185	1,000
Queenstown .. ..	406	206	207	181	1,000	395	201	222	182	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	371	228	208	193	1,000	364	221	225	190	1,000
<b>Weighted Average for 30 Towns</b> .. ..	365	239	202	194	1,000	355	232	220	193	1,000
<b>Weighted Average 6 Capital Cities</b> .. ..	363	242	201	194	1,000	353	235	219	193	1,000
Charters Towers (Q.) .. ..	395	152	215	238	1,000	377	156	233	234	1,000
Warwick (Q.) .. ..	371	185	220	224	1,000	362	184	235	219	1,000
Port Augusta (S.A.) .. ..	405	175	212	208	1,000	398	170	224	208	1,000

## Retail Price Index-Numbers : Capital Cities ("C" Series). All Items of Household Consumption.

(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
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## GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
" 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
" 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
" 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
" 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
" 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
" 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209

## GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).

Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
" 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
" 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
" 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
" 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
" 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
" 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851

## GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.

Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
" 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
" 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
" 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
" 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
" 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
" 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,082

## GROUP III.—CLOTHING.

Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
" 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
" 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
" 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
" 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
" 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
" 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365

## GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
" 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
" 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
" 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	882
" 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
" 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
" 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194

## GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION.

Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
" 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
" 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
" 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
" 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
" 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
" 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166



## § 5. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

**I. General.**—To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding sections, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November each year relates at present, therefore, to 200 towns. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pp. 26 to 33), and details respecting succeeding investigations are incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

In issues of these publications prior to No. 28 of 1937, information was given regarding movements in the rents of 4-roomed and 5-roomed houses. While the index-numbers were useful in a general way as a measure of changes in rents in any one town from time to time, there has been an increasing tendency to regard them as an adequate measure of the relative absolute levels of rents in different towns at any given date. In order to prevent such a misuse of the figures, and because of increasing doubts as to the ability of the Bureau, except at prohibitive cost, to ensure that returns of rents from all these towns shall be based on continuously representative samples, it has reluctantly been decided to limit the information collected to the prices of food and groceries. Should any industrial tribunal desire further information on house rentals in any of these towns, the Bureau will be prepared to consider requests for special investigations by its field officers.

Although the tabulation of this series of index-numbers will be continued, their publication will be suspended for the period of the war, owing to the need for economy in official publications.

## § 6. Publication of Prices and Price Index-Numbers.

The results of inquiries into price movements are available in the following publications :—

(i) **Monthly.**—A mimeographed statement is published each month giving index-numbers for Food and Groceries. The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) **Quarterly.**—A mimeographed statement is issued each quarter giving the "C" series index-numbers. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items comprising the Food and Groceries regimen, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. The weighted average rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) **Annual.**—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over the past five years, and the monthly and quarterly results for the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and groceries, and average house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published in the Labour Report.

### § 7. Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920.

The Report of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage is a valuable source of reference for information on retail prices during the years 1914 to 1920. It was also largely responsible for the extension of the prices investigations of the Bureau from food, groceries and housing only to all items of household consumption. The direct use of the Commission's data made in the "All Items" index has already been referred to in earlier sections of this chapter. The Commission was appointed in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

- (i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.
- (ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.
- (iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at the 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows :—

#### Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total (a) ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

(a) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 6d., but no recommendation made.

The corresponding costs of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first Report) for the years 1914 to 1920 were as follows :—

#### Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that "a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time

the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)". After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.

The Commission was concerned principally with ascertaining variations in the cost of an assumed regimen, which is described in the Report as the "Indicator List". It appeared, however, that the usefulness of the investigations of this Bureau would have been somewhat impaired had they been limited in the manner suggested by the Commission. It was decided, therefore, to apply to a more detailed inquiry the methods of index-number construction already used in the investigations into variations in the cost of food, groceries and housing.

It was decided to adopt for food, groceries and housing the commodities, methods and weighting already in use, which conformed very closely with those given in the "Indicator List" of the Commission. With regard to housing, the Commission adopted a certain type of 5-roomed house as its standard in determining the amount allowed for house rent. The figures used by this Bureau are the rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses, and are not confined to any particular type, but they fairly represent variations in the rent for the type of house described by the Commission.

Previous inquiries by this Bureau had been confined to food, groceries and housing. It became necessary, therefore, to investigate the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items. The results of these investigations are set out in earlier sections of this chapter.

### § 8. Changes in the Regimen.

Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications. These are briefly explained in the following paragraphs.

(i) *Food and Groceries*.—The regimen for food and groceries was originally introduced in 1912, and the first revision was made in the September quarter of 1932. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936.\* The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below.

(ii) *Housing*.—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally the rentals of all houses from "3 rooms and under" to "8 rooms and over" were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the "A" Series Index from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the "All Items" Index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the "C" series index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the "B" series index.

Since the December quarter of 1936, following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians, the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in certain towns have been collected and tabulated on a somewhat different basis from that previously used. The returns in the twelve more important cities and towns show the rents of individual houses, on the basis of which

\* Revisions of collection and compilation methods have occupied a longer period, and are still proceeding. Proper precautions are taken to prevent such revisions from disturbing the essential principle of continuity.



variations from a pre-determined standard are measured. This standard, the change in which has affected the index-numbers only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height, was determined by means of a special investigation of the 1933 Census data relating to rentals of all 4 and 5-roomed wood and brick houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary-earners. This method not being generally applicable to the circumstances of small country towns, on account of the greater diversity of average "quality" of houses, the level of rents in these towns has been determined from a sample of houses selected by house-agents in accordance with definite standards laid down. The variations in rentals from this standard are measured in the same manner as described above for the twelve more important cities and towns.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous*.—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in the March quarter of 1935. Details of the original regimen were never published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936.\* The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below. Some minor alterations have since been made in the regimen.

(iv) The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27.

This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen were made with a view to improving the index-numbers as measures of price variations. They comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use; the adjustment of the mass-unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits; and the re-adjustment of the population weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in all places. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (see paragraph (ii) above).

(v) Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (see Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paragraphs 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price-level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

\* Revisions of collection and compilation methods have occupied a longer period, and are still proceeding. Proper precautions are taken to prevent such revisions from disturbing the essential principle of continuity.

While this involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the Group index-numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, the following considerations should be kept in mind :—

*Food and groceries.*—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to the June quarter of 1936. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

*Rent.*—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of "All Houses", and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.\* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to the June quarter of 1936. In the September quarter, 1936, a change was made in the weighting system which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the index-numbers for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other towns. In the December quarter of 1936 the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with index-numbers of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter.

*Clothing and Miscellaneous.*—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

### § 9. Retail Price Index-Numbers and Wage Variations.

In view of the fact that several "series" of retail price index-numbers are still associated with the variation of wages, the following short explanation of their significance is given.

It is desirable again to emphasize the fact that the retail price index-numbers compiled by the Bureau are designed to measure the *variations* in the cost of the definite regimen of commodities and services covered by each of the series. The use made of them by wage-fixing tribunals for the purpose of adjusting wage-rates is entirely the responsibility of the tribunals concerned, and not of the Bureau, although the Bureau fully realizes the great importance of the use to which these indexes are put in this connexion, and takes every care to make them as accurate as possible.

\* The tabulation of the "A" Series Index for which these rents were used was discontinued after the issue for June quarter, 1938.

(i) "*A* Series.—The "*A*" series of indexes cover the items food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to the June quarter of 1938, after which it was discontinued.

This is the series which the Commonwealth Arbitration Court adopted in 1913 to determine the relative basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the "*Harvester*" Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the "normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." This series has had very little application since May, 1933, as the result of the adoption by the Court successively of the "*D*" series at that date, the "*C*" series in May, 1934, and the "*Court*" series in July, 1937.

(ii) "*B* Series.—The "*B*" series covers the items food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the "*A*" Series, but up to date has not been used in connexion with the fixation or adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 9 to 13 of this Report.

(iii) "*C* Series.—The "*C*" series covers all items of household expenditure, viz., food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing (man, wife and three children); household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000).

This series was introduced as the result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920, and the regimen adopted was practically that of the "*Indicator*" Lists of the Commission. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March quarter, 1925 to date.

The series was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court in May, 1933, when that Court introduced the "*D*" series of indexes (for explanation of which see next page). In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted the "*C*" series as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Commonwealth Court adopted this index as the basis of the "*Court*" series for the adjustment of the "*needs*" portion of the Court's new basic wage (see next page). The Court is, of course, quite free to alter the basis of the "*Court*" series at any time it thinks fit.

This series, covering as it does a far wider range of commodities, displays a different relationship between the towns from that shown in the preceding series ("A" and "B"). The series is published on pages 14 to 22 of this Report.

(iv) *The "Court" Series.*—The "Court" series of index-numbers was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. It is at present based on the Commonwealth Statistician's "C" series index, and is obtained as follows:—The "C" series index-number for any town for the quarter in question is multiplied by .081, and the first three figures on the left of the product are taken as the corresponding number in the "Court" series. This number itself states in whole and decimal figures the number of shillings with current purchasing power equivalent to that of 81s. when the "C" series index-number is 1,000. The base of the series is, therefore, the weighted average of the six capital cities, 1923-27 = 81s. The judgment provides that the nearest whole number of shillings (a decimal of .5 or over being regarded as a whole number) shall be taken as the "needs" basic wage, to which will be added the relevant fixed "prosperity loadings" granted by the Court. The "Court" series entirely supersedes the "C" series for all wage adjustments decreed by the Commonwealth Court. A set of index-numbers under this series is reproduced in Appendix III. of this Report.

(v) *"D" Series.*—The "D" series is a combination of the "A" and "C" series, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court for the adjustment of wages of those employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. "cut" imposed by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933, and was devised in order to counteract the excessive drop in wages occasioned by the "A" series index after 1929.

The series has for its base the "A" series index for each town for the December quarter of 1929, which is varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "C" series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the corresponding "C" index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment is to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "D" index for each town from the December quarter of 1929 fluctuated in the same way as the "C" index for the same town, the relationship of different towns was that of the "A" series for the December quarter of 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "A" series and the "C" series index for each town since that quarter.

This series has been superseded by the judgment of the Court referred to under "C" series. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(vi) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 3. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and also for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel. Both these adjustments are now effected by means of the "C" Series Index.

(vii) *The "200 Towns" Series.*—This series is tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936 it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation has been limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by Industrial Tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series has been compiled for the month of November since 1913. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. A reference to these index-numbers will be found on page 23.

(viii) *Relative Merits of Series.*—The relative merits of the various series of index-numbers have been much discussed. Prices of all commodities do not change simultaneously nor to the same degree. Consequently, over short periods there may be differences of some magnitude between the results ascertained from the different series, but over longer periods these differences tend to be much reduced.

Thus, taking the movement of the following retail price indexes for the six capital cities over the two periods 1911 to 1940 and 1929 to 1940, as disclosed by the table in Appendix VI. of this Report, the changes are substantially of the same order:—

			Increase per cent., 1911-1940.		Decrease per cent., 1929-1940.
Food and Groceries only..	..	..	68	..	10
Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses	..	..	59	..	9
Food Groceries and Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses ("B" Series)	..	..	64	..	10
"All Items" of Household Expenditure ("C" Series)	..	..	59*	..	7

\* Taken back to 1911 from base 1914 by means of "A" Series Index.

(ix) For information in regard to the different bases upon which the above index-numbers have been compiled, see page 7.



## § 10. Increases in Retail Prices over War Periods.

1. **Australia.**—The following statement shows for the six Capitals separately, and as a whole, the percentage increases which have taken place in retail prices over the two years since the outbreak of war, viz., from September quarter 1939, to the September quarter 1941, inclusive :—

Group.				"C" Series Index. Increase per cent.	"Group" Index. Increase per cent.
SYDNEY.					
Food	..	..	..	0.7	1.8
Rent	..	..	..	0.1	0.4
Clothing	..	..	..	6.8	34.2
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	2.5	13.1
Total	..	..	..	10.1	10.1
MELBOURNE.					
Food	..	..	..	0.2	0.5
Rent	..	..	..	0.4	1.9
Clothing	..	..	..	7.1	36.3
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	2.2	11.1
Total	..	..	..	9.9	9.9
BRISBANE.					
Food	..	..	..	1.4	4.1
Rent	..	..	..	0.1	0.5
Clothing	..	..	..	7.9	37.2
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	1.7	8.5
Total	..	..	..	11.1	11.1
ADELAIDE.					
Food	..	..	..	0.1	0.3
Rent	..	..	..	0.1	0.3
Clothing	..	..	..	6.7	31.4
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	2.7	12.9
Total	..	..	..	9.6	9.6
PERTH.					
Food	..	..	..	1.8	4.8
Rent	..	..	..	0.1	0.3
Clothing	..	..	..	6.9	33.7
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	2.0	10.4
Total	..	..	..	10.8	10.8
HOBART.					
Food	..	..	..	1.9	5.2
Rent	..	..	..	0.2	0.6
Clothing	..	..	..	7.0	33.1
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	1.7	9.1
Total	..	..	..	10.8	10.8



Group.					"C" Series Index. Increase per cent.	"Group" Index. Increase per cent.
SIX CAPITAL CITIES.						
Food	..	..	..	..	0.6	1.7
Rent	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.9
Clothing	..	..	..	..	7.1	34.9
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	2.3	11.7
Total	..	..	..	..	10.2	10.2

The differences in the percentages in the various groups under the two indexes are explainable by the fact that in the case of the "Group" Index the percentage represents the increase in each group separately, and when these are subjected to the group "weights" for the production of the total "C" Series Index, the percentage distribution amongst the groups of the total increase is as shown under the "C" Series Index.

2. **International Comparisons.**—In the following table, comparisons are made for both the present and the last war of the increases which occurred in the several countries shown:—

#### Retail Price Index-Numbers.

(FOOD, RENT, CLOTHING, MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.)

Date.	Australia.	Great Britain.	Canada.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	United States of America.
(A): 1914-1920.						
1914 July ..	100(a)	100	100	100	(b) 100(c)	100
1915 Year ..	114(a)	125	97	108	103	102
1916 " ..	116(a)	148	102	115	106	109
1917 " ..	123(a)	180	130	125	114	128
1918 " ..	132(a)	203	146	135	118	156
1919 " ..	149(a)	208	155	145	126	175
1920 " ..	170	..	..	..	..	..

(a) November.

(b) Food, Fuel, Light and Rent.

(c) Average for year 1914.

(B): 1939-1941 (September).

					(a)	
1939—						
September Quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100
December "	101	109	103	102	101	99
1940—						
March "	102	114	103	102	103	99
June "	104	116	104	103	104	100
September "	105	120	105	105	104	100
December "	108	124	107	106	105	100
1941—						
March "	109	127	107	106	106	100
June "	109	129	109	107	109	102
September "	110	128(b)	..	108(b)	111(c)	105(b)

(a) Food, Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Expenditure.

(b) August.

(c) July.

## § 11. International Comparisons : Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The tables giving index-numbers of retail prices for (i) cost of living, including articles other than food, and (ii) foodstuffs only, appearing in previous issues of this Report have been discontinued for the duration of the war, owing partly to the need for economy, and partly to the information for many countries being no longer available. The figures, which were taken chiefly from the League of Nations *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, and the International Labour Office *Year Book of Labour Statistics*, are of course still obtainable from the publications mentioned.

## CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

### § 1. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index.

1. **General.**—The data on which this chapter is based relate almost entirely to wholesale prices in Melbourne. An index of Sydney wholesale prices is compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and published in the *Year Book* and the *Monthly Summary of Business Statistics* of that State.

The index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912, and has been continued on the same lines since that year. The items included in the (old) Melbourne wholesale price index comprise chiefly basic materials which in the form of raw material, food, or as a source of power, enter into production for home consumption. The purpose of the index, therefore, is to measure the changes in the prices of these particular materials rather than the changes in prices generally. As Australia does not, to any extent, manufacture from imported raw materials commodities for export, the local consumption appears to give the most appropriate weighting. Any lack of uniformity in the variations of the index-numbers for these wholesale prices and for retail prices would indicate broadly changes in the relation of manufacturing and distributing charges to the cost of basic materials.

The scope of this wholesale price index can best be understood by an examination of the list of commodities included which is given on page 34. This list is, to a large extent, comparable with that used in the compilation of the *Economist* and *Statist* index-numbers for Great Britain, but differs largely from that used for the wholesale price index-numbers of the United States (Bureau of Labour) or Canada (Department of Labour).

2. **The Grouping of the Commodities.**—The commodities are divided into eight groups, as set out on page 34. The descriptions of the groups are given in the following tables with the proportional cost of each group for the year 1940. These proportions may be used with fair accuracy as "weights" to combine any group index-numbers at the present time, but would give unsatisfactory results if used for a time when prices were relatively much different.

## Groups of Commodities.

Group.	Description.	Percentage of Aggregate Cost (1940).
I.	"Metals and Coal" .. .. .	15
II.	"Wool, Cotton", also jute, leather, &c. ..	14
III.	"Agricultural Produce" .. .. .	25
IV.	"Dairy Produce" .. .. .	9
V.	"Groceries" .. .. .	16
VI.	"Meat" .. .. .	11
VII.	"Building materials" (mostly timber) ..	9
VIII.	"Chemicals" (excluding fertilizers) ..	1
		100

It will be noticed that the group "Chemicals" is practically negligible.

The index relates chiefly to basic materials, but a certain proportion of Australian manufacturing costs enters into all groups. The amount is small in Meat (VI.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Wool, Cotton (II.), and greater in others, but the difference is not sufficient to justify any inference as to different changes of the price-level for manufactured goods and farm products. The number and weight of manufactured commodities included are too small to warrant deductions of this nature from any possible grouping.

Many of the commodities included are affected by the tariff. Wool, Cotton (II.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Meat (VI.), are little affected, and Dairy Produce (IV.) not greatly, but in the other groups the tariff is a dominating influence.

**Melbourne Wholesale Price Index : Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units".**

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.	Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP I. (Metals and Coal).				GROUP II. (Wool, Cotton, also Jute, Leather, &c.)			
Iron—				Branbags ..	..	Doz.	110
Pig ..	Mixed Nos.	Ton	6½	Cornsacks ..	..	"	250
Rod and Bar ..	Stafford	"	3½	Woolpacks ..	..	Each	200
Angle ..	"	"	3½	Leather—			
Plate ..	"	"	3	Chrome Box ..	..	ft.	1,200
Hoop ..	"	"	½	Hide ..	..	lb.	600
Galvanized ..	26 gauge	"	5	Rough Tanned ..	..	lb.	600
Fencing Wire ..	No. 8	Ton	6	— Split ..	..	"	600
Tinned Plates ..	I.C. Coke	Box	60	Sole Leather—			
Zinc, sheet ..	"	Ton	1	Factory Sides ..	..	"	600
Lead, sheet ..	"	"	½	Cotton ..	Raw ..	"	24,000
" pipes ..	"	"	½	Wool ..	Greasy ..	"	12,200
Copper, sheet ..	"	lb.	2,000	Twine ..	Reaper ..	"	150
Quicksilver ..	"	"	12	and Binder ..	"	"	150
Coal ..	Newcastle, on wharf	Ton	600	Tallow ..	Mutton Prime	Ton	1½

## Melbourne Wholesale Price Index : Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units"—continued.

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.	Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP III. (Agricultural Produce).				GROUP V.—continued. (Groceries).			
Wheat .. ..	..	Bus.	500	Starch .. ..	Coleman's	lb.	100
Flour .. ..	..	Ton	48	Blue .. ..	White	..	..
Bran .. ..	..	"	14	Matches .. ..	Keen's	Gross	50
Pollard .. ..	..	"	14	.. ..	Australian	..	90
Oats .. ..	Milling ..	Bus.	1,200	.. ..	Safety	..	..
Oatmeal .. ..	Colonial	Ton	150	Candles .. ..	Rangoon	lb.	1,600
Barley .. ..	English	Bus.	100	Tobacco .. ..	..	..	1,300
Maize .. ..	Cape ..	"	1,000	Kerosene .. ..	..	Gall.	1,700
Hay .. ..	Best Mngr.	Ton	135	GROUP VI. (Meat).			
Chaff .. ..	Prime ..	"	135	Beef .. ..	Average quality	100 lb.	390
Straw .. ..	Victorian	"	25	Mutton .. ..	"	lb.	33,000
Peas .. ..	..	Bus.	55	Lamb .. ..	"	"	5,600
Potatoes .. ..	..	Ton	40	Veal .. ..	"	"	2,000
Malt .. ..	Victorian	Bus.	140	Pork .. ..	"	"	3,700
Onions .. ..	..	Ton	3	GROUP VII. (Building Materials).			
GROUP IV. (Dairy Produce).				Timber—	Flooring—	100 ft. lin.	30
Ham .. ..	..	lb.	800	.. ..	6 x 1 1/2	"	30
Bacon .. ..	..	"	3,200	.. ..	6 x 1 1/2	"	30
Cheese .. ..	..	"	1,500	.. ..	6 x 1 1/2	"	30
Butter .. ..	Best Fresh	"	9,500	.. ..	6 x 1 1/2	"	30
Lard .. ..	Bulk ..	Doz.	200	.. ..	6 x 1 1/2	"	30
Eggs .. ..	Ordinary	Doz.	1,800	.. ..	6 x 1 1/2	"	30
Honey .. ..	..	lb.	600	.. ..	Weatherboards	"	200
Beeswax .. ..	..	"	40	.. ..	Oregon	1,000 ft. sup.	20
Condensed Milk	Bacchus Marsh	Doz. lb.	160	.. ..	Shelving	"	10
GROUP V. (Groceries).				Cement .. ..	Portland	Cask	30
Currants .. ..	..	lb.	1,400	White Lead .. ..	..	Ton	1/2
Raisins .. ..	Sultanas	"	1,400	Slates .. ..	Welsh	1,000	1/2
Herrings .. ..	1-lb. fresh	Doz. 1-lb. tins	50	.. ..	20 x 10	..	..
Salmon .. ..	1-lb. tall	"	50	GROUP VIII. (Chemicals).			
Sardines .. ..	Alaska	Doz. halves	100	Cream of Tartar	In kegs	lb.	400
Tea .. ..	Halves	lb.	3,000	Bi-Carbonate of Soda	..	Ton	1/2
Coffee .. ..	Plantation	"	200	Saltpetre .. ..	Refined	"	1-20
Cocoa .. ..	McKenzie's	"	100	Sulphur .. ..	..	..	..
Sugar .. ..	No. 1A	Ton	22	Caustic Soda .. ..	..	cwt.	..
Macaroni .. ..	..	lb.	200	Alum .. ..	Lump ..	Ton	..
Tapioca .. ..	..	cwt.	7	Potassium Cyanide	..	lb.	570
Rice .. ..	Australian	Ton	2	.. ..	..	..	..
Salt .. ..	fine	"	7	.. ..	..	..	..
Salt .. ..	Rock ..	"	1	.. ..	..	..	..
Mustard .. ..	Coleman's	Doz. 1-lb. tins	6	.. ..	..	..	..

3. **Index-Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table:—

**Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1940.**

(Base of each Group: Year 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricul- tural Pro- duce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Grocer- ies.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemical- s.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1902 ..	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	1,051
1903 ..	923	834	1,209	1,059	936	1,443	875	921	1,049
1904 ..	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	890
1905 ..	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	801	859	910
1906 ..	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	948
1907 ..	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	1,021
1908 ..	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	1,115
1909 ..	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	993
1910 ..	1,004	1,052	969	1,100	999	1,008	996	898	1,003
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,088
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,084	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,662
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,125	2,363	1,985	1,651	1,516	2,348	2,851	2,898	2,055
1920 ..	2,298	2,624	2,439	2,209	1,918	3,279	3,226	2,825	2,480
1921 ..	2,173	1,362	1,767	2,000	1,976	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,942	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,965	1,750
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,837	1,746	2,579	2,025	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,815	1,806	1,885
1925 ..	1,852	1,967	1,797	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,731	1,931	1,665	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,624	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,556	1,792	1,853	1,690	2,246	1,754	1,942	1,803
1930 ..	1,866	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,025	1,875	1,982	1,596
1931 ..	1,826	1,039	1,121	1,399	1,794	1,508	2,025	2,166	1,426
1932 ..	1,736	1,000	1,230	1,303	1,767	1,348	2,043	2,127	1,411
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,195	1,714	1,487	2,061	2,106	1,409
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,018	1,471
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	1,469
1936 ..	1,566	1,331	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	1,543
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	1,656
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,789	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,059	1,662
1939 ..	1,758	1,101	1,820	1,557	1,752	1,710	2,220	2,075	1,665
1940 ..	1,854	1,362	1,568	1,567	1,784	1,882	2,890	2,298	1,713

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

4. **Variations since 1914.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915 to 1940, are shown in the following table, taking July, 1914, as base (= 1,000) for each group:—

**Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.**

(Base of each Group : July, 1914 = 1,000.)

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
" 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
" 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
" 1918 ..	2,197	2,324	1,351	1,210	1,378	1,469	2,448	3,085	1,695
" 1919 ..	1,930	2,169	1,858	1,373	1,469	1,448	2,602	2,827	1,801
" 1920 ..	2,091	2,430	2,228	1,840	1,860	2,022	2,944	2,764	2,178
" 1921 ..	1,974	1,250	1,653	1,663	1,916	1,331	2,495	2,246	1,668
" 1922 ..	1,763	1,543	1,523	1,370	1,811	1,102	1,830	1,917	1,541
" 1923 ..	1,658	1,972	1,664	1,527	1,693	1,590	1,848	1,885	1,704
" 1924 ..	1,667	2,220	1,541	1,376	1,668	1,371	1,656	1,761	1,653
" 1925 ..	1,682	1,806	1,681	1,360	1,670	1,364	1,562	1,746	1,617
" 1926 ..	1,760	1,453	1,873	1,483	1,677	1,191	1,519	1,771	1,606
" 1927 ..	1,782	1,515	1,709	1,516	1,671	1,302	1,482	1,820	1,593
" 1928 ..	1,737	1,635	1,661	1,456	1,654	1,242	1,590	1,876	1,571
" 1929 ..	1,737	1,428	1,677	1,540	1,638	1,385	1,601	1,895	1,581
" 1930 ..	1,695	1,035	1,389	1,353	1,614	1,249	1,712	1,933	1,399
" 1931 ..	1,659	954	1,049	1,163	1,738	930	1,849	2,112	1,252
" 1932 ..	1,577	918	1,152	1,083	1,712	831	1,865	2,074	1,237
" 1933 ..	1,556	1,026	1,100	994	1,661	917	1,882	2,054	1,235
" 1934 ..	1,508	1,158	1,205	1,059	1,682	950	1,839	1,968	1,290
" 1935 ..	1,456	1,116	1,258	1,100	1,677	931	1,792	1,946	1,288
" 1936 ..	1,422	1,222	1,385	1,123	1,678	1,038	1,798	1,948	1,353
" 1937 ..	1,609	1,291	1,502	1,206	1,696	1,035	2,219	1,957	1,452
" 1938 ..	1,586	965	1,674	1,287	1,693	1,154	2,043	2,008	1,457
" 1939 ..	1,597	1,011	1,704	1,295	1,698	1,054	2,026	2,024	1,460
" 1940 ..	1,684	1,250	1,467	1,303	1,728	1,161	3,638	2,242	1,502

**§ 2.—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.**

I. **General.**—As mentioned above, the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index was first computed in 1912. Neither the component items nor the weighting have been varied. Consequently the index is a measure of changes in wholesale price levels based on usages which have altered substantially since the period on which the weighting was determined. As such it is useful as an indication of long-term trends over the past 80 years which it covers, on the assumption that the relative importance of component items remained constant. But it no longer serves as a measure of price variations from month to month or from year to year of commodities weighted in accordance with present day consumption. Reference to the description of the index in § 1 above will indicate that animal fodders preponderate in the "Agricultural Produce" group, while "Building Materials" include little besides imported timber. In other groups, some principal items have increased in consumption while others have decreased. It was resolved, therefore, at the Conference of Statisticians at Brisbane in 1930 that the time had come to revise and extend the items included in



order to bring the index into line with changed conditions. An investigation to that end was commenced, and in the course of the past few years, many new price-series have been collected on a monthly basis back to January, 1928. Some of these have been incorporated in a new index of the prices of basic materials and foodstuffs, preliminary index-numbers of which are currently published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. Others are being incorporated in a number of "special-purpose" indexes, which it is hoped to publish in the future. Their construction has been delayed in order to make use, for weighting purposes, of the larger amount of information which is now becoming available as the result of the collection of more extensive statistics of factory production. The price quotations have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and dealers, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from home-produced building materials, coal and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of fluctuations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on average annual consumption during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive. In the meantime, however, the original index has been continued on existing lines, as set out in § 1 of this chapter.

2. **Index-Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities and for all groups combined for this new index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table:—

**Wholesale Price Index-Numbers—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs, 1928 to September, 1941.**

(Base of each Group : Year 1928 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1928 .. ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1929 .. ..	1,000	1,019	831	977	769	980	1,070	1,011	1,033	1,028
1930 .. ..	954	1,082	612	955	548	998	951	1,053	917	951
1931 .. ..	890	1,116	575	979	581	1,012	812	1,119	791	873
1932 .. ..	827	1,069	539	981	530	984	792	1,082	762	842
1933 .. ..	818	882	621	949	564	995	778	1,009	746	812
1934 .. ..	785	816	664	885	601	979	808	089	752	811
1935 .. ..	740	877	620	817	593	971	849	1,025	761	827
1936 .. ..	725	909	761	815	724	984	906	1,045	807	867
1937 .. ..	791	952	872	817	889	1,102	929	1,126	843	914
1938 .. ..	801	949	607	831	664	1,041	960	1,094	852	911
1939 .. ..	814	972	650	835	779	1,047	958	1,112	858	920
1940 .. ..	836	1,229	776	969	934	1,269	998	1,331	903	1,008
1939—										
January ..	810	944	577	833	713	1,022	950	1,103	843	906
February ..	794	947	587	834	705	1,022	971	1,077	863	915
March .. ..	813	947	577	835	711	1,022	1,032	1,075	910	950
April .. ..	813	948	574	835	697	1,016	1,005	1,075	890	935
May .. ..	813	949	578	835	702	1,016	903	1,079	845	942
June .. ..	813	950	597	835	710	1,007	903	1,078	846	941
July .. ..	814	949	613	835	699	1,007	898	1,075	841	933
August .. ..	815	947	610	835	727	1,007	893	1,076	833	923
September ..	815	951	728	835	797	1,091	912	1,121	851	935
October .. ..	815	996	786	835	886	1,092	934	1,158	862	961
November ..	828	1,042	791	835	977	1,127	941	1,200	859	951
December ..	828	1,090	779	839	1,011	1,133	947	1,236	855	948

**Wholesale Price Index-Numbers—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs, 1928 to September, 1941—continued.**

(Base of each Group : Year 1928 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1940—										
January ..	828	1,099	781	922	939	1,132	959	1,232	869	958
February ..	829	1,100	755	923	953	1,193	965	1,247	874	966
March ..	832	1,143	771	923	945	1,194	977	1,263	886	979
April ..	848	1,155	780	924	923	1,196	1,001	1,272	905	995
May ..	834	1,278	780	924	941	1,194	1,013	1,326	914	1,015
June ..	834	1,283	775	924	922	1,279	1,000	1,349	905	1,014
July ..	834	1,284	773	1,006	913	1,279	1,001	1,358	904	1,015
August ..	834	1,279	763	1,014	911	1,351	1,014	1,370	920	1,030
September ..	834	1,276	775	1,014	912	1,351	1,021	1,365	925	1,033
October ..	840	1,286	786	1,012	919	1,351	1,023	1,395	921	1,037
November ..	840	1,286	784	1,019	965	1,351	992	1,389	904	1,023
December ..	840	1,290	788	1,019	960	1,351	1,011	1,406	912	1,033
1941—										
January ..	846	1,289	789	1,020	948	1,346	1,017	1,406	917	1,037
February ..	847	1,287	788	1,020	941	1,347	978	1,412	887	1,016
March ..	847	1,288	803	1,022	950	1,347	970	1,412	883	1,012
April ..	856	1,329	812	1,022	973	1,347	972	1,433	888	1,021
May ..	858	1,329	828	1,022	1,024	1,371	971	1,454	885	1,025
June ..	858	1,330	830	1,022	979	1,371	974	1,456	886	1,025
July ..	884	1,331	812	1,022	983	1,374	1,008	1,471	910	1,047
August ..	887	1,355	822	1,042	982	1,374	1,037	1,481	933	1,068
September ..	917	1,377	831	1,123	982	1,374	1,051	1,532	942	1,087

### CHAPTER III.—WAGES.

#### § 1. Operations Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth and State Laws for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the *Labour Report* and in the *Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics*.

2. **Laws Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The Laws in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions are as follows :—

#### COMMONWEALTH.

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1934.

National Security Act 1939-1940 and certain Regulations made thereunder.

Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920-1934.

Industrial Board Ordinance, 1936-1940 (Australian Capital Territory).

#### STATES.

New South Wales .. Industrial Arbitration Act 1940 (Consolidated).

Victoria .. Factories and Shops Act 1928-1939.

Queensland .. Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932-1938.

South Australia .. The Industrial Code 1920-1937.

Western Australia .. Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1937.

Tasmania .. Wages Board Act 1920-1938.

**3. Methods of Administration.**—(i) **COMMONWEALTH.**—The Commonwealth authority consists of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, consisting of a Chief Judge and four\* other Judges; Conciliation Commissioners not exceeding three in number; and Conciliation Committees† for particular industries. The Commonwealth Act provides that, where a State Award or Determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail. The Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority. The Commonwealth Arbitration Court began to function in 1905.

The Regulations covered by Statutory Rules, 1940, No. 290, are to be construed as if their provisions were incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. They are designed to secure during the period of the war the prompt settlement of industrial disputes occurring or likely to occur to the detriment of the war effort. The Regulations considerably extend the powers of and facilitate the handling of disputes by the Court.

Wages, hours of labour and working conditions in the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who was appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but the Government can move the Parliament to exercise its right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

(ii) **STATES**—(a) *New South Wales.*—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of six Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioner; the Apprenticeship Commissioner; Conciliation Committees; and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of the Conciliation Commissioner as chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(b) *Victoria.*—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the County Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(c) *Queensland.*—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

\* One judge has been acting in Bankruptcy jurisdiction for several years.

† Held by the High Court in 1930 to be invalid.

(d) *South Australia*.—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned. Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(e) *Western Australia*.—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and Commissioners. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(f) *Tasmania*.—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

4. **Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.**—The following table shows the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed, excluding variations, in each State and under the Commonwealth legislation dealing with these matters during each of the years 1936 to 1940.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.

State.	1936.		1937.		1938.		1939.		1940.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.
New South Wales ..	52	39	63	42	64	38	64	17	70	22
Victoria ..	141	..	121	..	99	..	173	..	170	..
Queensland ..	61	37	46	42	38	38	50	25	34	45
South Australia ..	22	17	42	16	6	4	18	7	53	7
Western Australia ..	24	26	35	32	28	31	20	25	31	21
Tasmania ..	22	..	43	..	26	..	18	..	18	..
Commonwealth Court ..	32	13	38	11	31	13	31	21	25	13
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator ..	2	..	3	..	3	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	356	132	391	143	295	124	375	95	402	108

The figures in the above table exclude variations and interpretations of principal awards and agreements, of which a considerable number are made each year. The variations made by the State and the Commonwealth Courts, Wages and Industrial Boards, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator numbered 1,808 in 1940 compared with 1,861 in 1939, and were distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 1,129; Victoria, 252; Queensland, 54; South Australia, 139; Western Australia, 16; Commonwealth Court, 192, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, 26. In Tasmania any alteration in the determination of a Wages Board is incorporated with the existing determination, and a new determination issued which wholly repeals the old one.

The registration of industrial agreements is not provided for under the Victorian and Tasmanian Acts, but agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act are in operation within those States.

**5. Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place during the period under review. The number of industrial awards and determinations in force throughout Australia at 31st December, 1940, was 1,706, and the industrial agreements filed at the same date numbered 705. Including the operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts the number of awards or determinations and industrial agreements in force increased by 1,131 and 304 respectively over the number in force at 31st December, 1913.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Section 28 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Section 47 (2), and in legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian Wages Board Act, 1934 repealed Part IV. of the Principal Act providing for industrial agreements and all such agreements ceased to operate from the commencement of the Act unless an agreement existed in a trade to which no determination of a Board was applicable, in which case the agreement remained in force until its expiry or until a determination was made.

The provisions in the Commonwealth and State Industrial Acts that awards and agreements shall remain in force until they have been superseded or rescinded occasion some difficulty when the compilation of a list of awards, determinations and agreements actually operative is undertaken, as the specified periods in many cases have expired. This difficulty applies not only to State awards and determinations but also to awards of the Commonwealth Court. Awards, determinations and industrial agreements regarding which definite information as to supersession or rescission is not readily ascertainable are included in these records; but, in cases where it could be definitely claimed that an award, determination or agreement was out of date and the terms were not actually in operation, they have not been included in the records as at 31st December, 1940.

The above account may be accepted as a brief explanation in general terms of the currency of awards and agreements. There are exceptions in certain cases, but they are infrequent.

**Particulars of Boards and of Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force.**

Dates.	Boards Authorized.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations.	Awards or Determinations in Force.(a)	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st December, 1913 .. ..	505	386 (b)	575 (c)	401
" " 1915 .. ..	573	498	663	546
" " 1925 .. ..	575	524	1,181	607
" " 1936 .. ..	660	583	1,443	611
" " 1937 .. ..	660	583	1,568	655
" " 1938 .. ..	678	610	1,637	696
" " 1939 .. ..	680	624	1,686	673
" " 1940 .. ..	678	625	1,706	705

(a) Including awards made by Arbitration Courts and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.

(b) Owing to the fact that a number of awards under the New South Wales Industrial Disputes Act (1908) were still in force, the Boards constituted for such industries under the Industrial Arbitration Act (1912) had not made any awards.

(c) Excluding awards or determinations which expired in New South Wales (under the Act of 1908) on 31st December, 1913.

The following table shows the number of Industrial and Wages Boards authorized, and the number of awards, determinations and industrial agreements in force at 31st December, 1913 and 1940 :—

**Industrial and Wages Boards Authorized, and Industrial Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**

Particulars.	At 31st Dec.	Commonwealth.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
		Court.	Pub. Ser. Arb.							
<b>Industrial and Wages—</b>										
Boards authorized ..	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	216	135	75	56	..	23	505
	{ 1940 .. ..	..	..	(a) 323	190	..	76	29	60	678
Boards which have made determinations	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	123	123	74	47	..	19	386
	{ 1940 .. ..	..	..	(b) 280	189	..	67	29	60	625
<b>Awards and Determinations—</b>										
In force .. ..	{ 1913 17	..	..	265	127	73	54	18	21	575
	{ 1940 209	53	..	582	215	275	134	178	60	1,706
<b>Industrial Agreements—</b>										
In force .. ..	{ 1913 228	..	..	75	..	5	11	82	..	401
	{ 1940 128	..	..	161	..	164	56	196	..	705
<b>Commonwealth Court Awards—</b>										
Number in force in each State ..	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	13	17	15	16	9	13	..
	{ 1940 .. ..	..	..	129	158	66	118	47	88	..
<b>Commonwealth Agreements—</b>										
Number in force in each State ..	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	132	129	68	62	57	61	..
	{ 1940 .. ..	..	..	25	46	21	15	14	37	..
<b>Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator—</b>										
Number of Determinations in force in each State ..	1940 .. ..	..	..	47	43	37	40	37	36	..

(a) Under Industrial Arbitration Act 1926, Conciliation Committees have been appointed, and at the end of 1940, 330 Committees were in operation.

(b) Includes 13 Demarcation Boards.



6. **New Legislation and Special Reports.**—Information concerning the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout Australia was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year respecting new industrial legislation, as well as details respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this Report, brief particulars are given regarding new industrial legislation and special reports and tribunals connected with industrial matters during the year 1940 :—

(i) *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court.*—The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court during 1940 was 25, and 13 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. Among the industries and occupations for which awards were made during the year were :—Timber workers, &c., New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; Ship repairing, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia ; Engine driving, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; Journalists, all States ; Felt hatting, New South Wales and Victoria ; Manufacturing grocers, Victoria and South Australia ; Storemen and packers, South Australia and Tasmania ; Transport workers, Victoria and South Australia.

Industrial agreements covering the undermentioned industries were also made during the year :—Fruit picking, New South Wales ; flour milling, Tasmania ; munition making, New South Wales ; theatrical and amusement, New South Wales and Victoria ; radio announcers and broadcasters, all States ; local government, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania ; waterside workers, Queensland ; marine and power engineers, Western Australia ; tram and motor omnibus employees, Tasmania.

A full description of the considerations which led to the reduction by 10 per cent. as from 1st February, 1931, of all wages controlled by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and the refusal of the Court in June, 1932 and May, 1933 to restore the "cut", appeared in earlier issues of the Report (see Labour Reports Nos. 22, pp. 45-48 and 23, pp. 45-46).

The 10 per cent. "cut" was removed by the Court as from the first pay period in May, 1934, as the result of a judgment delivered 17th April. At the same time the Court abandoned the former "Harvester" standard, and replaced it by a standard established by the New South Wales Board of Trade in 1925 which the Court brought up to the December quarter, 1933, by means of the "All Items" ("C" series) index-numbers of this Bureau. A full account of the judgment appeared on pp. 76-82 of Report No. 26.

In May, 1937, the Court heard a claim by the combined unions for an increase in the basic wage, details of which will be found on page 70 of this Report.

In August, 1940, the Full Court heard an application by the Combined Unions for an increase in the Basic Wage, details of which, and the Judgment, will be found on page 71.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—During the year 1940 the number of Conciliation Committees established under the Industrial Act was 14, the number which expired, were dissolved or were no longer operative was 8, and at the end of the year 330 Committees were in force. In addition, 323 Industrial Boards constituted under the Act were in force, but no awards were issued by these

Boards, the work previously performed by them being undertaken mainly by the Conciliation Committees. Principal awards published by the Industrial Commission numbered 47, by Conciliation Committees, 21, and by Apprenticeship Councils, 2. The number of subsidiary awards and variations issued during the year was 1,129, of which 41 were made by the Industrial Commission, 92 by Conciliation Committees, 5 by Apprenticeship Councils and 991 by the Industrial Registrar. At the end of the year principal awards in force numbered 582, and industrial agreements, 161.

Declarations of the Basic Wage made by the Industrial Commission will be found on page 74.

The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1939, which was passed during the year, authorizes the Industrial Commission of New South Wales to fix maximum prices for bricks and certain other commodities where, by reason of the existence of monopolies or of certain contracts, agreements, understandings or arrangements the prices of those commodities are regulated or controlled and are excessive. It also transfers powers under Section 82 from the Board of Trade to the Industrial Commission.

(iii) *Victoria*.—Wages Boards made 170 determinations during the year, the number including determinations which were reviewed more than once during the twelve months. At 31st December, 1940, 215 determinations were considered to be legally in force.

An amendment of the Factories and Shops Act (No. 4461 of 1936) provided *inter alia* for the incorporation in all determinations of Wages Boards, so far as they do not conflict with State law, of the provisions of Commonwealth Arbitration Court awards for corresponding industries.

No legislation of industrial import was passed in 1940.

(iv) *Queensland*.—Thirty-four industrial awards were made during the year, all of which were awards of the Industrial Court. The number of industrial agreements filed was 45, and variations of awards numbered 53. At the end of the year, 275 awards and 164 industrial agreements were in force.

On page 76 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

Industrial legislation passed during the year comprised the Inspection of Machinery Acts and another Act Amendment Act of 1939 and Workers' Compensation Acts and another Act Amendment Act of 1939.

(v) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Court made sixteen awards during the year and 37 determinations were made by Industrial Boards. Seven industrial agreements were filed. The number of awards and determinations varied by the Court or Industrial Boards was 139.

At the end of the year 134 awards and determinations and 56 industrial agreements were in force.

Particulars of variations in the "Living Wage" determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 77.

No legislation of industrial interest was passed in 1940.

(vi) *Western Australia*.—During the year, the Industrial Court made thirty-one awards, but no awards were made by various Industrial Boards. Twenty-one industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the

State Act during 1940. Fourteen awards and one industrial agreement were varied. At the end of the year there were 178 awards and 196 agreements in force.

Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 78.

Industrial legislation passed during the year comprised the Factories and Shops Act, Amendment Act, 1939 relating to the trading hours for sellers of motor spirit, oil or accessories and the Profiteering Prevention Act, 1939.

(vii) *Tasmania*.—During the year, Wages Boards made eighteen determinations. Among the industries and callings covered by the determinations made were the following :—Butchers ; hotelkeepers ; marine boards ; bakers ; mining (lead-zinc) ; builders ; paper and paper pulp ; and plumbers.

The Wages Board Act in force in Tasmania provides for the inclusion of a clause in the determination for the automatic adjustment of rates of wage according to the increase or decrease in the retail price index-number. The inclusion or otherwise of this provision is decided by the Wages Boards, and a number of determinations issued embody the clause for automatic adjustment. Among the Wages Boards which have adopted this system of wage adjustment may be mentioned the following :—Bakers ; builders and painters ; carriers ; mechanical engineering and foundries ; electrolytic zinc ; fuel merchants ; jam makers ; motor garage ; printers ; produce stores ; rubber trade ; tanners ; textile workers ; and wholesale grocers.

At the end of the year sixty-two determinations were in force.

No legislation of industrial interest was passed in 1940.

(viii) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator*.—During 1940, the Arbitrator made one new determination and varied 26 existing determinations.

(ix) *Australian Capital Territory*.—The regulation of industrial matters in the Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922.

In accordance with the Industrial Board Ordinance 1936-1940 the Board now consists of a Chairman and four members and is constituted from time to time as follows :—

(a) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees and private employees—the Chairman and the four other members :

(b) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees—the Chairman, the member representing the Commonwealth, the member representing the Commonwealth employees ; and where the matter for determination is one affecting private employees—the Chairman, the member representing the private employers and the member representing the private employees ; provided that where the matter for determination is—

- (i) the making of a common rule ; or
- (ii) the determination or variation of the basic wage or standard hours of work ;

the Chairman, may, at any stage of the proceedings, order that matter be referred to the full Board for determination.

Provision was originally made only for the regulation by the Industrial Board of the wages and working conditions of Government employees, and for those working on Government contracts. By an amending Ordinance, dated 9th April, 1936, workers in outside industry were similarly brought under the control of the Board and Determinations have since been made covering the majority of occupations in private enterprise.

Provision for the automatic adjustment of wages according to the retail price variations shown by the "A" Series Index-Numbers\* was made in the Determination operative from 1st July, 1936. Adjustments in accordance with the variations of the "C" Series Index-Numbers starting with a newly-declared basic wage for an unskilled labourer of 95s. 6d. (which came into operation on 10th October, 1941) replaced those under the "A" Series as from 1st November, 1941, and quarterly thereafter. The rate remained at 95s. 6d. on the last mentioned date.

## § 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General.**—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were not of course available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,† and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking the arithmetical average‡ of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. It is not claimed that the results obtained

\* An "A" series index-number for Canberra was specially continued for the purposes of these adjustments.

† The adopted classification of industries is shown on page ii.

‡ The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

by this method are precisely correct, but, owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no detailed system of weights could be applied. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the average wage for that State for the particular year. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in previous issues of the Labour Report.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28-43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars included of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations. The aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been kept constant, but the particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or were obtained by direct inquiry.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652.

The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State.



2. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914-1940.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

**Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948

**RATES OF WAGE.**

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 .. ..	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
30th September, 1929 .. ..	103 6	101 1	101 4	97 5	100 8	94 7	101 5
31st December, 1932 .. ..	84 11	77 10	88 5	72 7	81 9	78 0	81 10
" " 1933 .. ..	81 11	77 0	88 1	73 5	81 4	78 0	80 6
" " 1934 .. ..	83 2	78 8	88 9	75 6	84 1	79 7	82 0
" " 1935 .. ..	84 2	79 9	88 5	77 11	86 7	81 0	83 0
" " 1936 .. ..	85 6	83 1	88 7	79 6	90 7	83 3	85 0
" " 1937 .. ..	92 1	88 1	92 8	85 10	93 1	87 0	90 4
" " 1938 .. ..	95 0	91 2	95 10	87 1	99 1	88 5	93 5
" " 1939 .. ..	96 7	93 6	97 5	88 11	100 6	89 5	95 3
31st March, 1940 .. ..	96 11	94 0	97 5	89 0	101 0	90 11	95 6
30th June, 1940 .. ..	97 9	94 9	97 5	89 4	101 1	91 0	96 1
30th September, 1940 .. ..	99 5	96 7	97 6	90 3	103 9	91 9	97 7
31st December, 1940 .. ..	99 7	97 0	97 9	92 11	104 0	92 7	98 1

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)

	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
30th June, 1914 .. ..	2,020	1,973	1,977	1,901	1,964	1,846	1,979
30th September, 1929 .. ..	1,657	1,518	1,726	1,416	1,595	1,523	1,597
31st December, 1932 .. ..	1,598	1,502	1,718	1,433	1,587	1,522	1,570
" " 1933 .. ..	1,623	1,534	1,732	1,473	1,640	1,552	1,599
" " 1934 .. ..	1,642	1,555	1,725	1,520	1,689	1,581	1,620
" " 1935 .. ..	1,668	1,621	1,729	1,552	1,768	1,625	1,659
" " 1936 .. ..	1,797	1,719	1,808	1,674	1,816	1,697	1,763
" " 1937 .. ..	1,854	1,780	1,870	1,700	1,933	1,725	1,823
" " 1938 .. ..	1,885	1,825	1,900	1,735	1,962	1,745	1,858
" " 1939 .. ..	1,890	1,835	1,901	1,737	1,971	1,773	1,864
31st March, 1940 .. ..	1,907	1,849	1,901	1,744	1,972	1,776	1,875
30th June, 1940 .. ..	1,939	1,884	1,903	1,761	2,025	1,791	1,903
30th September, 1940 .. ..	1,943	1,892	1,908	1,812	2,029	1,807	1,913
31st December, 1940 .. ..							

(a) Highest weighted average weekly rate recorded for Australia.

3. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914-1940.**—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (b) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—



## Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-Numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group.

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.														
	I. Wood, Furni- ture, etc.	II. Engineer- ing, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manu- factur- ing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Trans- port.	XI. Shipping, etc.(a)	XII. Agricul- tural, etc.(b)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(b)	XIV. Miscel- laneous.	All Industrial Groups.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	59 2	57 2	55 2	52 10	63 9	55 8	65 4	64 11	59 8	51 1	48 7	49 5	47 0	53 10	55 3
30th September, 1929 ..	104 8	103 11	101 1	100 0	119 3	102 7	113 5	110 6	105 2	97 8	106 7	95 10	93 5	97 0	101 5
31st December, 1932 ..	83 4	81 6	84 2	77 3	98 3	80 7	93 11	98 2	80 11	78 3	79 6	74 9	76 5	78 11	81 10
" " 1933 ..	82 8	81 4	83 3	76 7	97 6	79 5	92 3	97 0	80 4	76 9	80 9	71 11	74 10	77 5	80 6
" " 1934 ..	85 4	83 2	83 8	79 11	99 6	81 4	93 8	97 7	82 8	78 9	84 8	73 4	75 9	78 7	82 0
" " 1935 ..	86 8	85 3	85 3	80 9	100 11	83 0	94 1	99 11	84 9	80 1	85 2	73 4	76 8	79 6	83 0
" " 1936 ..	88 3	86 10	87 3	81 4	104 4	85 2	95 7	101 0	86 0	81 8	86 8	75 9	79 1	82 2	85 0
" " 1937 ..	95 1	94 11	92 6	89 0	103 7	91 3	101 7	104 11	92 4	88 3	95 6	78 9	85 3	87 6	90 4
" " 1938 ..	98 2	97 8	95 2	91 9	112 0	94 4	104 6	103 2	95 5	91 7	97 6	82 3	88 3	90 5	93 5
" " 1939 ..	100 1	99 3	96 9	93 2	114 3	95 8	106 5	109 1	96 6	92 10	98 6	84 0	89 11	92 10	95 3
31st March, 1940 ..	100 3	99 6	96 11	93 4	114 5	96 0	107 1	109 6	97 0	93 2	99 8	84 5	90 2	93 0	95 6
30th June, 1940 ..	100 11	100 3	97 5	94 2	115 0	96 9	107 9	109 10	97 5	94 4	99 8	84 7	90 10	93 11	96 1
30th September, 1940 ..	102 10	102 2	99 1	94 11	116 0	98 7	109 7	110 6	99 4	96 0	101 6	85 5	92 3	95 9	97 7
31st December, 1940 ..	102 11	102 5	99 3	96 4	116 0	99 0	109 11	111 10	100 3	96 3	102 6	85 8	93 0	96 3	98 1

## INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base: Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914 ..	1,154	1,116	1,077	1,031	1,243	1,086	1,275	1,267	1,164	997	948	964	918	1,050	1,079
30th September, 1929 ..	2,042	2,028	1,973	1,950	2,327	2,001	2,214	2,157	2,052	1,905	2,079	1,870	1,823	1,893	1,970
31st December, 1932 ..	1,627	1,589	1,642	1,507	1,918	1,572	1,833	1,916	1,579	1,527	1,552	1,458	1,492	1,540	1,597
" " 1933 ..	1,613	1,587	1,625	1,494	1,902	1,549	1,800	1,893	1,567	1,497	1,575	1,404	1,460	1,511	1,570
" " 1934 ..	1,664	1,623	1,633	1,559	1,942	1,587	1,828	1,904	1,613	1,537	1,652	1,431	1,478	1,532	1,599
" " 1935 ..	1,691	1,663	1,664	1,576	1,969	1,619	1,836	1,949	1,653	1,562	1,661	1,431	1,496	1,552	1,620
" " 1936 ..	1,722	1,694	1,702	1,587	2,035	1,661	1,866	1,971	1,677	1,593	1,690	1,478	1,543	1,603	1,659
" " 1937 ..	1,855	1,852	1,805	1,737	2,119	1,780	1,982	2,046	1,802	1,722	1,863	1,537	1,663	1,707	1,763
" " 1938 ..	1,916	1,906	1,857	1,790	2,185	1,840	2,039	2,111	1,862	1,787	1,902	1,604	1,720	1,764	1,823
" " 1939 ..	1,953	1,936	1,888	1,817	2,229	1,867	2,076	2,142	1,884	1,812	1,922	1,639	1,755	1,811	1,858
31st March, 1940 ..	1,956	1,942	1,891	1,822	2,233	1,874	2,090	2,136	1,893	1,818	1,944	1,648	1,760	1,814	1,864
30th June, 1940 ..	1,970	1,957	1,901	1,838	2,244	1,888	2,103	2,143	1,901	1,840	1,945	1,650	1,772	1,833	1,875
30th September, 1940 ..	2,004	1,993	1,933	1,851	2,263	1,923	2,138	2,155	1,938	1,873	1,980	1,666	1,799	1,868	1,903
31st December, 1940 ..	2,008	1,998	1,937	1,880	2,264	1,931	2,145	2,182	1,957	1,878	2,001	1,671	1,815	1,878	1,913

(a) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied.

(b) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914–1940.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

### Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
No. of Occupations Included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308

### RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
30th September, 1929 ..	54 1	54 1	54 10	51 3	58 10	53 7	54 2
31st December, 1932 ..	44 8	43 0	46 9	40 11	49 7	43 4	44 2
" " 1933 ..	43 2	42 9	46 9	41 0	48 4	43 2	43 5
" " 1934 ..	44 3	43 9	47 8	41 11	49 1	44 1	44 5
" " 1935 ..	44 11	44 2	48 0	42 5	49 1	44 10	45 0
" " 1936 ..	45 7	46 10	48 4	43 4	50 11	45 1	46 5
" " 1937 ..	50 2	49 2	51 4	46 10	51 0	48 6	49 8
" " 1938 ..	51 10	50 7	53 6	47 9	54 4	49 8	51 3
" " 1939 ..	53 3	51 9	55 2	49 7	55 8	50 8	52 8
31st March, 1940 ..	53 3	51 11	55 2	49 7	55 8	51 10	52 9
30th June, 1940 ..	53 9	52 5	55 5	49 11	55 8	52 1	53 2
30th September, 1940 ..	54 5	52 11	55 6	50 1	57 6	52 5	53 9
31st December, 1940 ..	54 9	53 5	56 0	52 1	57 6	53 1	(a)54 3

### INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
30th June, 1914 ..	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
30th September, 1929 ..	1,992	1,989	2,020	1,887	2,165	1,973	1,992
31st December, 1932 ..	1,644	1,583	1,720	1,505	1,826	1,595	1,624
" " 1933 ..	1,580	1,573	1,720	1,510	1,778	1,587	1,569
" " 1934 ..	1,628	1,609	1,755	1,541	1,808	1,623	1,636
" " 1935 ..	1,654	1,626	1,767	1,561	1,808	1,651	1,655
" " 1936 ..	1,677	1,722	1,780	1,594	1,873	1,661	1,708
" " 1937 ..	1,848	1,810	1,889	1,724	1,877	1,785	1,828
" " 1938 ..	1,907	1,862	1,969	1,758	2,000	1,828	1,887
" " 1939 ..	1,960	1,906	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,866	1,938
31st March, 1940 ..	1,960	1,909	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,909	1,940
30th June, 1940 ..	1,978	1,929	2,039	1,838	2,049	1,917	1,957
30th September, 1940 ..	2,004	1,948	2,043	1,843	2,116	1,930	1,977
31st December, 1940 ..	2,016	1,966	2,060	1,916	2,116	1,954	1,996

(a) Highest weighted average weekly rate recorded for Australia.

**5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914-1940.**—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (b) the weighted average rate for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in Industrial Groups.*

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manu- facturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(a)	XIV. Miscel- laneous.	All Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.						
30th June, 1914 .. ..	22 6	24 9	26 11	31 1	30 2	27 2
30th September, 1929 ..	49 5	54 6	53 11	55 1	53 4	54 2
31st December, 1932 ..	41 0	42 4	44 2	46 2	47 0	44 2
" " 1933 ..	40 6	41 11	43 5	43 4	45 11	43 5
" " 1934 ..	40 8	43 6	44 2	45 11	47 2	44 5
" " 1935 ..	42 1	44 2	44 8	46 3	46 5	45 0
" " 1936 ..	43 1	44 9	45 8	47 1	50 9	46 5
" " 1937 ..	45 7	48 1	49 4	51 1	53 0	49 8
" " 1938 ..	47 1	49 0	50 6	52 11	54 6	51 3
" " 1939 ..	48 9	50 9	51 11	54 5	56 8	52 8
31st March, 1940 .. ..	48 9	50 10	52 0	54 6	56 8	52 9
30th June, 1940 .. ..	49 1	51 4	52 5	54 8	57 1	53 2
30th September, 1940 ..	49 11	51 8	53 6	55 6	57 7	53 9
31st December, 1940 ..	50 0	52 6	53 8	55 10	57 11	54 3

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914 .. ..	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
30th September, 1929 ..	1,819	2,006	1,984	2,029	1,963	1,992
1st December, 1932 ..	1,508	1,559	1,625	1,700	1,730	1,624
" " 1933 ..	1,491	1,542	1,599	1,594	1,691	1,599
" " 1934 ..	1,497	1,601	1,626	1,689	1,737	1,636
" " 1935 ..	1,549	1,625	1,645	1,701	1,708	1,655
" " 1936 ..	1,585	1,646	1,680	1,734	1,867	1,708
" " 1937 ..	1,677	1,770	1,815	1,880	1,952	1,828
" " 1938 ..	1,732	1,831	1,859	1,947	2,004	1,887
" " 1939 ..	1,795	1,869	1,910	2,003	2,085	1,938
31st March, 1940 .. ..	1,795	1,871	1,914	2,004	2,085	1,940
30th June, 1940 .. ..	1,808	1,890	1,930	2,013	2,101	1,957
30th September, 1940 ..	1,838	1,902	1,970	2,044	2,120	1,977
31st December, 1940 ..	1,841	1,932	1,975	2,056	2,132	1,996

(a) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

**6. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1940.**—  
(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in many instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some

purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (a) the average weekly wage, (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Many of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males*.—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1940:—

**Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.**

*Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1940.*

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	Weekly Wage	105/9	100/9	104/3	98/0	103/1	97/10	102/11
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/4½	2/3½	2/4½	2/2½	2/4	2/2½	2/4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	Weekly Wage	103/10	101/3	102/6	99/3	105/11	101/6	102/5
	Working Hours	44.00	44.18	44.00	44.56	44.00	45.18	44.15
	Hourly Wage	2/4½	2/3½	2/4	2/2½	2/5	2/3	2/3½
III. Food, Drink, etc. . .	Weekly Wage	102/4	96/6	98/8	96/5	102/2	95/10	99/3
	Working Hours	44.00	44.59	43.96	45.12	45.28	44.68	44.34
	Hourly Wage	2/4	2/2	2/3	2/1½	2/2½	2/1½	2/2½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. . .	Weekly Wage	95/3	95/6	100/0	100/0	102/10	93/2	96/4
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/2	2/2	2/3½	2/3½	2/4	2/1½	2/2½
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	Weekly Wage	122/6	112/2	110/1	105/8	131/3	105/10	116/2
	Working Hours	43.38	43.39	43.20	43.68	42.72	43.35	43.35
	Hourly Wage	2/10	2/7	2/6½	2/5	3/0½	2/5½	2/8½
VI. Other Manufacturing . .	Weekly Wage	102/5	95/5	97/11	97/11	101/9	96/4	99/0
	Working Hours	43.98	44.92	43.97	44.70	44.08	44.18	44.39
	Hourly Wage	2/4	2/1½	2/2½	2/2½	2/3½	2/2½	2/2½
VII. Building . . .	Weekly Wage	114/6	109/2	104/7	105/10	107/3	103/2	110/2
	Working Hours	43.66	44.00	40.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.42
	Hourly Wage	2/7½	2/5½	2/7½	2/4½	2/5½	2/4½	2/6½
VIII. Mining(b) . . .	Weekly Wage	115/2	102/11	111/10	71/6	*125/3	102/1	111/10
	(c)							
	Working Hours	41.94	42.14	42.40	43.79	40.54	43.54	41.97
IX. Rail and Tram Services . .	Hourly Wage	2/9	2/5½	2/7½	1/7½	3/1	2/4½	2/8
	Weekly Wage	101/1	99/8	99/4	95/2	101/0	93/5	99/8
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	40.00	43.79	45.71	44.21
X. Other Land Transport . .	Hourly Wage	2/3½	2/3½	2/3	2/0½	2/3½	2/0½	2/3
	Weekly Wage	100/10	93/2	96/1	86/4	99/4	90/11	96/3
	Working Hours	44.00	44.27	44.00	44.73	45.25	44.00	44.21
	Hourly Wage	2/3½	2/1½	2/2½	1/11½	2/2½	2/0½	2/2½

(a) Weighted Average. (b) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State. (c) Excludes District Allowances in the gold-mining industry.

## Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups—continued.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1940—continued.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
XI. Shipping, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	102/9	102/7	100/0	104/9	101/8	102/6	102/6
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, etc.      Agricultural,	Weekly Wage(c)	81/10	86/6	90/4	81/8	91/7	87/4	85/5
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	95/5	93/6	90/4	92/4	92/3	72/11	93/0
	Working Hours	44.00	44.43	44.00	48.00	44.00	44.00	44.40
	Hourly Wage(c)	2/2	2/1½	2/0½	1/11	2/1½	1/8	2/1½
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	98/10	96/0	95/5	90/9	96/7	87/0	96/3
	Working Hours	44.00	44.83	44.00	46.00	47.23	46.59	44.74
	Hourly Wage	2/3	2/1½	2/2	1/11½	2/0½	1/10½	2/1½
All Groups(a) ..	Weekly Wage	99/7	97/0	97/9	92/11	104/0	92/7	98/1
All Groups excepting XI. and XII.(a)	Weekly Wage	103/7	98/11	100/5	94/6	106/8	94/4	101/1
	Working Hours	43.70	44.28	43.46	45.23	44.09	44.92	44.04
	Hourly Wage	2/4½	2/2½	2/3½	2/1	2/5	2/1½	2/3½

(a) Weighted average. (b) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation where provided. (c) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

(iii) *Adult Females*.—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1940 :—

## Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1940.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	51/1	50/4	46/5	46/3	46/1	51/0	50/0
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.33	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/1½	1/0½	1/0½	1/0½	1/2	1/1½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	52/3	51/5	55/0	55/0	54/2	52/1	52/6
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/2½	1/2	1/3	1/3	1/2½	1/2½	1/2½
I., II., V., & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	51/6	55/10	50/7	53/3	..	53/0	53/8
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	..	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/3½	1/1½	1/2½	..	1/2½	1/2½
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	54/0	/9	55/7	47/10	61/2	55/9	55/10
	Working Hours	43.38	44.00	44.00	46.22	44.00	44.00	43.95
	Hourly Wage(b)	1/3	1/4	1/3½	1/0½	1/4½	1/3½	1/3½
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	61/11	54/10	60/6	50/0	..	..	57/11
	Working Hours	44.00	45.00	44.00	48.00	..	..	44.78
	Hourly Wage	1/5	1/2½	1/4½	1/0½	..	..	1/3½
All Groups(a) ..	Weekly Wage	54/9	53/5	56/0	52/1	57/6	53/1	54/3
	Working Hours	43.88	44.19	44.01	45.47	44.00	44.00	44.15
	Hourly Wage	1/3	1/2½	1/3½	1/1½	1/3½	1/2½	1/2½

(a) Weighted Average. (b) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1940.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1940. The wages given in this table relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

State.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
RATES OF WAGE.													
N.S. Wales ..	44	1 43 11	51	5 56	2 94	0 102 11	83	2 84	2 85	6 92	1 95	0 96	7 99
Victoria ..	40	5 40	9 50	6 54	7 86	1 101	1 78	8 79	9 83	1 88	1 91	2 93	5 97
Queensland ..	46	6 46	2 51	1 53	5 91	6 101	2 88	9 88	5 88	7 92	8 95	10 97	5 97
S. Australia ..	41	7 42	0 51	11 54	5 82	8 97	0 75	6 77	11 79	6 85	10 87	1 88	11 92
W. Australia ..	52	4 53	11 59	0 62	10 89	9 100	7 84	1 86	7 90	8 93	1 99	1 100	6 104
Tasmania ..	38	6 36	10 41	0 52	8 85	9 94	8 79	7 81	0 83	3 87	0 88	5 89	5 92
Australia ..	43	5 43	5 51	3 55	7 89	10 101	2 82	0 83	0 85	0 90	4 93	5 95	3 98

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base: Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)

N.S. Wales ..	861	858	1,003	1,096	1,835	2,007	1,623	1,642	1,668	1,797	1,854	1,885	1,943
Victoria ..	789	796	985	1,065	1,679	1,972	1,534	1,555	1,621	1,719	1,780	1,823	1,892
Queensland ..	908	901	997	1,042	1,785	1,975	1,732	1,725	1,729	1,808	1,870	1,900	1,908
S. Australia ..	811	819	1,013	1,062	1,613	1,896	1,473	1,520	1,552	1,674	1,700	1,735	1,812
W. Australia ..	1,022	1,052	1,152	1,226	1,751	1,963	1,640	1,689	1,768	1,816	1,933	1,962	2,029
Tasmania ..	751	719	799	1,028	1,674	1,848	1,552	1,581	1,625	1,697	1,725	1,745	1,807
Australia ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,599	1,620	1,659	1,763	1,823	1,858	1,913

8. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1940.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly wages payable in each industrial group in Australia. The wages relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
RATES OF WAGE.													
I. ..	52	5 52	3 57	8 59	6 95	1 104	10 85	4 86	8 88	3 95	1 98	2 100	1 102
II. ..	47	8 48	5 54	6 57	9 92	5 103	6 83	2 85	3 86	10 94	11 97	8 99	3 102
III. ..	38	2 44	7 50	9 55	8 89	3 100	10 83	8 85	4 87	3 92	6 95	2 96	9 99
IV. ..	36	8 36	3 50	3 53	0 86	5 99	6 79	11 80	9 81	4 82	0 91	5 93	2 96
V. ..	53	5 51	0 58	11 63	10 99	6 119	1 99	6 100	11 104	4 108	7 112	0 114	3 116
VI. ..	46	4 46	5 51	11 56	5 88	11 102	2 81	4 83	0 85	2 91	3 94	4 95	8 99
VII. ..	50	6 53	10 62	0 65	5 95	7 113	0 93	8 94	1 95	7 101	7 104	6 106	5 109
VIII. ..	58	1 54	8 61	2 65	2 103	10 110	7 97	7 99	11 101	0 104	11 108	2 109	1 111
IX. ..	50	10 52	4 57	0 59	8 93	1 105	2 82	8 84	9 86	0 92	4 95	5 96	6 100
X. ..	39	6 40	9 46	7 52	8 87	3 96	9 78	9 80	1 81	8 88	3 91	7 92	10 96
XI. ..	38	2 38	5 44	7 49	10 88	0 107	0 84	8 85	2 86	8 95	6 97	6 98	6 102
XII. ..	34	10 32	1 43	0 49	5 87	1 95	6 73	4 73	4 75	9 78	9 82	3 84	0 85
XIII. ..	32	10 30	8 45	5 47	11 80	6 92	6 75	9 76	8 79	1 85	3 88	3 89	11 93
XIV. ..	39	7 38	10 47	7 54	0 84	11 96	8 78	7 79	7 82	2 87	6 90	5 92	10 96
ALL GROUPS	43	5 43	5 51	3 55	7 89	10 101	2 82	0 83	0 85	0 90	4 93	5 95	3 98



Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—*continued*.

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
INDEX-NUMBERS.													
(Base : Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)													
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1,023	1,019	1,125	1,161	1,855	2,046	1,664	1,691	1,722	1,855	1,916	1,953	2,008
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	931	945	1,064	1,127	1,803	2,019	1,623	1,663	1,694	1,852	1,906	1,936	1,998
III. Food, Drink, etc.	745	871	991	1,085	1,742	1,967	1,633	1,664	1,702	1,805	1,857	1,888	1,937
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	716	708	981	1,034	1,687	1,942	1,559	1,576	1,587	1,737	1,790	1,817	1,880
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1,043	996	1,149	1,246	1,941	2,323	1,942	1,969	2,035	2,119	2,185	2,220	2,264
VI. Other Manufacturing	904	907	1,013	1,093	1,736	1,994	1,587	1,619	1,661	1,780	1,840	1,867	1,931
VII. Building	986	1,050	1,213	1,276	1,865	2,205	1,828	1,864	1,866	1,982	2,039	2,076	2,145
VIII. Mining	1,134	1,067	1,194	1,272	2,026	2,157	1,904	1,949	1,971	2,046	2,111	2,142	2,182
IX. Rail and Tram Services	992	1,021	1,113	1,165	1,816	2,052	1,613	1,653	1,677	1,802	1,862	1,884	1,957
X. Other Land Transport	772	795	910	1,026	1,702	1,888	1,537	1,562	1,593	1,722	1,787	1,812	1,878
XI. Shipping, etc.	745	751	871	972	1,716	2,087	1,652	1,661	1,690	1,863	1,902	1,922	2,001
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.	680	627	839	965	1,699	1,863	1,431	1,431	1,478	1,537	1,604	1,639	1,671
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	598	887	935	1,571	1,804	1,478	1,496	1,543	1,603	1,722	1,755	1,815
XIV. Miscellaneous	773	759	929	1,054	1,656	1,886	1,530	1,552	1,603	1,707	1,764	1,811	1,878
All Groups	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,599	1,620	1,659	1,763	1,823	1,858	1,913

9. Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914–1940.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

## Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States. (a)

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
30th April, 1914 ..	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st December, 1921	1 2	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 4½	1 1	1 2
" " 1927	2 1½	2 0½	2 2	2 10½	2 1	1 11½	2 0½
" " 1928	2 3½	2 2½	2 4	2 1½	2 2½	2 0½	2 2½
" " 1929	2 4	2 2	2 4	2 1	2 2½	2 0	2 3
" " 1931	2 4	2 2½	2 4	2 1½	2 2½	2 0½	2 3
" " 1932	2 2½	1 9½	2 0½	1 7½	1 10½	1 8½	1 11½
" " 1933	1 11½	1 8½	2 0½	1 7	1 10	1 8½	1 10
" " 1934	1 11	1 8	2 0½	1 7½	1 10	1 8½	1 9½
" " 1935	1 11½	1 8½	2 0½	1 7½	1 10½	1 8½	1 10½
" " 1936	1 11½	1 9	2 1	1 8½	1 11½	1 9½	1 10½
" " 1937	2 0½	1 10	2 1	1 9	2 0½	1 9½	1 11½
" " 1938	2 2½	1 11½	2 2½	1 10½	2 1½	1 11	2 0½
" " 1939	2 3	2 0½	2 3	1 10½	2 3½	1 11½	2 1½
" " 1940	2 3½	2 1½	2 3½	1 11½	2 4	2 0	2 2½
" " 1940	2 4½	2 2½	2 3½	2 1	2 5	2 1½	2 3½

(a) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (13.96d.) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)

30th April, 1914 ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
" " 1927	1,980	1,880	1,998	1,800	1,882	1,731	1,920
" " 1928	2,004	1,867	2,001	1,788	1,916	1,728	1,928
" " 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
" " 1931	1,873	1,527	1,749	1,383	1,617	1,480	1,676
" " 1932	1,701	1,451	1,748	1,355	1,584	1,464	1,584
" " 1933	1,655	1,438	1,775	1,372	1,571	1,463	1,567
" " 1934	1,676	1,484	1,782	1,410	1,624	1,494	1,594
" " 1935	1,703	1,496	1,782	1,476	1,689	1,519	1,623
" " 1936	1,731	1,567	1,787	1,500	1,776	1,552	1,670
" " 1937	1,878	1,676	1,875	1,602	1,804	1,643	1,779
" " 1938	1,935	1,741	1,934	1,638	1,968	1,671	1,840
" " 1939	1,963	1,834	1,979	1,692	2,001	1,717	1,903
" " 1940	2,038	1,920	1,986	1,796	2,080	1,805	1,973

10. Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1940.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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RATES OF WAGE.

30th April, 1914 ..	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 5½	s. d. 0 9½	s. d. 0 6	s. d. 0 6½
31st December, 1921	I 1	I 0½	I 1½	O II ¾	I 2¾	I 0	I 0¾
" " 1927	I 2½	I 1¾	I 2½	I 1	I 3½	I 1½	I 2
" " 1928	I 2¾	I 2½	I 3	I 1½	I 3½	I 2	I 2½
" " 1929	I 2¾	I 2½	I 3	I 1½	I 3½	I 2	I 2½
" " 1931	I 1½	I 0	I 1	O II ½	I 1½	I 0	I 0½
" " 1932	I 0½	O II ½	I 0½	O IO ¾	I 1	O II ½	O II ½
" " 1933	O II ¾	O II ½	I 0½	O IO ¾	I 0½	O II ½	O II ½
" " 1934	I 0	O II ½	I 1	O II	I 1	O II ½	I 0
" " 1935	I 0½	O II ¾	I 1	O II ½	I 1	O II ¾	I 0
" " 1936	I 0½	I 0½	I 1½	O II ½	I 1½	I 0	I 0½
" " 1937	I 1¾	I 1½	I 2	I 0½	I 1½	I 0½	I 1½
" " 1938	I 2½	I 1½	I 2½	I 0½	I 2½	I 1½	I 1½
" " 1939	I 2½	I 2	I 3	I 1	I 2½	I 1½	I 2½
" " 1940	I 3	I 2½	I 3½	I 1½	I 3½	I 2½	I 2½

## Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (6.64d.), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1927	2,175	2,084	2,193	1,958	2,327	1,985	2,125
" " 1928	2,205	2,140	2,250	2,003	2,333	2,092	2,172
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1931	2,044	1,822	1,943	1,688	2,045	1,791	1,910
" " 1932	1,837	1,711	1,863	1,605	1,967	1,700	1,777
" " 1933	1,776	1,700	1,919	1,611	1,916	1,691	1,752
" " 1934	1,819	1,738	1,956	1,699	1,947	1,730	1,797
" " 1935	1,848	1,758	1,971	1,721	1,947	1,759	1,818
" " 1936	1,875	1,883	1,985	1,700	2,018	1,803	1,881
" " 1937	2,066	1,985	2,107	1,839	1,990	1,938	2,017
" " 1938	2,134	2,050	2,196	1,878	2,164	1,991	2,084
" " 1939	2,193	2,107	2,267	1,952	2,217	2,032	2,145
" " 1940	2,256	2,184	2,298	2,069	2,361	2,181	2,220

II. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1940. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

## Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) : Adult Males, States.(a)

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
HOURS OF LABOUR.							
30th April, 1914 ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
31st December, 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1927	44.44	46.82	43.96	46.78	45.75	47.16	45.46
" " 1928	44.17	46.70	43.96	46.67	45.30	46.85	45.27
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1931	44.22	46.88	44.98	46.83	45.55	46.76	45.51
" " 1932	44.19	46.86	44.99	46.83	45.51	46.75	45.49
" " 1933	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1934	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1935	44.18	46.69	43.69	46.63	45.48	46.75	45.26
" " 1936	44.08	46.41	43.69	46.55	45.30	46.33	45.09
" " 1937	44.07	46.22	43.68	46.57	45.25	46.24	45.03
" " 1938	44.01	45.75	43.67	46.31	44.34	46.00	44.82
" " 1939	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
" " 1940	43.70	44.28	43.46	45.23	44.09	44.92	44.04

(a) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by Industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Males, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base: Weighted Average for Australia (48.93), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,010	997	997	993	976	994	1,000
31st December, 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
" " 1927	908	957	898	956	935	964	929
" " 1928	903	954	898	954	926	957	925
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1931	904	958	919	957	931	956	930
" " 1932	903	958	919	957	930	955	930
" " 1933	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1934	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1935	903	954	893	953	929	955	925
" " 1936	901	948	893	951	926	947	922
" " 1937	901	945	893	952	925	945	920
" " 1938	899	935	893	946	906	940	916
" " 1939	898	912	888	937	906	926	905
" " 1940	893	905	888	924	901	918	900

12. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1940. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
HOURS OF LABOUR.							
30th April, 1914 ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
31st December, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
" " 1927	44.02	45.58	44.01	46.10	45.57	47.86	44.94
" " 1928	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1931	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1932	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1933	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1934	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1935	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1936	43.93	44.94	44.03	46.03	45.57	45.24	44.60
" " 1937	43.92	44.76	44.03	46.02	45.57	45.24	44.52
" " 1938	43.88	44.63	44.03	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.44
" " 1939	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36
" " 1940	43.88	44.19	44.01	45.47	44.00	44.00	44.15

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Females, States—*continued*.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base: Weighted average for Australia (49.08) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,005	989	1,005	1,005	992	1,034	1,000
31st December, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
" " 1927	897	929	897	939	928	975	916
" " 1928	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1931	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1932	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1933	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1934	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1935	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1936	895	916	897	938	928	922	909
" " 1937	895	912	897	938	928	922	907
" " 1938	894	909	897	936	925	919	905
" " 1939	894	905	897	936	925	919	904
" " 1940	894	900	897	926	896	896	900

13. **Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Wages are said to be *nominal* when they represent the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* or *real* when expressed in terms of their equivalent purchasing power, that is, their purchasing power over some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A" series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of the "C" series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. The "C" series covers food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements. As the computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938, real wages to the end of 1937 are measured in terms of their purchasing power over both the "A" series regimen and the "C" series regimen\* in the following tables and over the "C" series only for the subsequent years.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1901 to 1940.*—The following table shows for the period 1901 to 1940 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

\* For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see page 28.

**Nominal Wage Index-Numbers: Adult Males, States.**  
(Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia, 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
N.S.Wales ..	858	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,734	1,638	1,617	1,631	1,654	1,723	1,829	1,874	1,920
Victoria ..	796	985	1,062	1,803	1,964	1,552	1,502	1,523	1,550	1,583	1,665	1,755	1,808	1,865
Queensland ..	901	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,731	1,720	1,727	1,731	1,728	1,774	1,854	1,885	1,903
S. Australia	819	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,434	1,423	1,458	1,493	1,533	1,608	1,688	1,725	1,764
W. Australia	1,052	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,611	1,584	1,619	1,689	1,730	1,790	1,876	1,956	1,999
Tasmania ..	719	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,533	1,519	1,540	1,571	1,610	1,656	1,718	1,738	1,787
Australia ..	848	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,639	1,584	1,590	1,612	1,638	1,707	1,799	1,846	1,889

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States—1901–1940.*—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following tables the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 which are based on nominal rates of wage current at the end of December may be taken as substantially accurate since the movement in wages during the course of any one year prior to 1914 was comparatively slight.

**Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work) : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "A" series regimen.**  
(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
N.S.Wales..	961	973	906	1,079	1,089	1,050	1,107	1,160	1,150	1,138	1,101	1,095	1,090	1,107
Victoria ..	915	1,037	961	1,038	1,120	1,084	1,158	1,162	1,126	1,139	1,114	1,092	1,075	1,099
Queensland	1,172	1,090	1,038	1,244	1,236	1,220	1,317	1,345	1,376	1,417	1,377	1,323	1,261	1,237
S. Australia	948	957	929	1,027	1,089	1,067	1,166	1,178	1,133	1,152	1,144	1,149	1,143	1,151
W. Australia	1,024	1,023	1,070	1,139	1,156	1,143	1,229	1,232	1,212	1,246	1,221	1,260	1,251	1,253
Tasmania ..	827	838	942	977	1,099	1,064	1,111	1,104	1,067	1,094	1,086	1,099	1,094	1,088
Australia	964	1,000	948	1,076	1,115	1,082	1,152	1,185	1,168	1,178	1,148	1,135	1,121	1,133

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

**Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work): Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.**  
(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
N.S.Wales ..	..	925	1,073	1,159	1,130	1,206	1,186	1,157	1,153	1,150	1,168	1,207	1,207	1,187
Victoria ..	..	954	1,084	1,188	1,164	1,150	1,147	1,146	1,134	1,131	1,155	1,180	1,180	1,167
Queensland ..	..	1,022	1,227	1,296	1,290	1,366	1,382	1,366	1,338	1,296	1,277	1,311	1,306	1,264
S. Australia	..	914	1,034	1,106	1,099	1,079	1,086	1,091	1,097	1,101	1,128	1,146	1,147	1,136
W. Australia	..	1,043	1,096	1,155	1,152	1,158	1,177	1,177	1,221	1,210	1,242	1,281	1,308	1,293
Tasmania ..	..	902	984	1,123	1,108	1,094	1,110	1,109	1,115	1,128	1,141	1,167	1,153	1,139
Australia..	1,000	948	1,087	1,172	1,151	1,190	1,187	1,173	1,169	1,162	1,178	1,209	1,211	1,190



In the above tables the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia—1901–1940.* In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the "A" and "C" series. These are obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

**Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work).<sup>(a)</sup>**  
(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		"A" Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	"C" Series (All Items).	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1901.. ..	848	880	..	964	..
1910.. ..	955	970	..	985	..
1911.. ..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1912.. ..	1,051	1,101	..	955	..
1913.. ..	1,076	1,104	..	975	..
1914.. ..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1915.. ..	1,092	1,278	1,297	854	842
1916.. ..	1,144	1,324	1,319	864	867
1917.. ..	1,226	1,318	1,406	930	872
1918.. ..	1,270	1,362	1,501	932	846
1919.. ..	1,370	1,510	1,695	907	808
1920.. ..	1,627	1,785	1,935	911	841
1921.. ..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1922.. ..	1,801	1,600	1,619	1,126	1,112
1923.. ..	1,805	1,700	1,664	1,062	1,085
1924.. ..	1,840	1,681	1,637	1,095	1,124
1925.. ..	1,861	1,722	1,654	1,081	1,125
1926.. ..	1,914	1,786	1,677	1,072	1,141
1927.. ..	1,946	1,766	1,662	1,102	1,171
1928.. ..	1,963	1,760	1,675	1,115	1,172
1929.. ..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1930.. ..	1,939	1,683	1,618	1,152	1,198
1931.. ..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932.. ..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933.. ..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934.. ..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935.. ..	1,612	1,420	1,380	1,135	1,169
1936.. ..	1,638	1,461	1,409	1,121	1,162
1937.. ..	1,707	1,507	1,448	1,133	1,178
1938.. ..	1,799	(b)	1,488	(b)	1,209
1939.. ..	1,846	(b)	1,526	(b)	1,211
1940.. ..	1,889	(b)	1,588	(b)	1,190

(a) As to the effect in abnormal periods, see page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (b) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the "A" series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the purchasing power of wages under both the "A" and the "C" series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. under the "C" series.

Retail prices rose slightly in 1940, but as nominal wages rose to a less extent than prices, the *effective* wage index-number fell from 1,211 to 1,190 under the "C" series.

**14. Productive Activity.**—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in series of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production.

The following table shows the total recorded value of production valued as in the principal markets as ascertained from various sources during the years specified:—

Estimated Gross Value of Australian Production.

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and heries.	Mining.	Manufacturing. (a)	Total.
	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1913 ..	46,162	63,146	21,682	6,626	25,594	57,674	220,884
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1916 ..	61,255	83,054	27,931	6,062	23,192	60,502	261,996
1920-21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,675	101,778	390,644
1921-22 ..	81,890	75,054	44,417	10,519	20,029	112,517	344,426
1922-23 ..	84,183	97,127	43,542	11,124	20,281	123,188	379,445
1923-24 ..	81,166	110,216	42,112	11,866	22,184	132,732	400,276
1924-25 ..	107,163	127,301	45,190	12,357	24,592	137,977	454,580
1925-26 ..	89,267	113,556	48,278	12,784	24,529	143,256	431,670
1926-27 ..	98,295	111,716	46,980	12,790	23,939	153,634	447,354
1927-28 ..	84,328	124,554	50,261	12,181	23,015	158,562	452,901
1928-29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,539	159,759	447,805
1929-30 ..	77,109	84,563	49,398	11,371	17,912	149,184	389,537
1930-31 ..	70,500	69,499	43,067	8,313	15,361	112,966	319,706
1931-32 ..	74,489	61,540	41,478	7,703	13,352	106,456	305,018
1932-33 ..	75,562	64,851	39,622	8,470	15,583	114,136	318,224
1933-34 ..	70,731	95,613	40,306	9,605	17,608	123,355	357,218
1934-35 ..	68,587	74,556	44,763	10,856	19,949	137,638	356,349
1935-36 ..	75,388	91,286	47,533	11,424	23,248	155,891	404,770
1936-37 ..	91,403	105,499	49,886	11,765	27,381	170,811	456,745
1937-38 ..	93,229	100,794	57,641	14,755	32,434	188,061	486,914
1938-39 ..	76,851	84,805	60,404	14,634	32,463	195,746	464,993
1939-40 ..	95,369	104,972	62,070	15,347	36,839	212,488	527,085

(a) Net Values.

In the absence of a satisfactory measure of the total *quantity* of recorded production, the retail price index-numbers have been applied to the value of production, in the same manner as they have been applied to nominal wages, to measure their relative purchasing power. The results may be taken to indicate the purchasing power in retail prices of the things produced and for convenience will hereafter be called *real* production. Owing to the discontinuance in 1938 of the "A" series retail price index-number it is not now possible to continue the measurement on the basis of this series.

Two tables are given :—The first shows *real* production per head of population, but any deductions therefrom must take into account the following considerations. The production considered is material production only, and takes no account of services. As civilization advances, material production becomes less important relative to services, and a smaller proportion of the population is engaged in such production. For example, the use of the motor car, the cinema and wireless is comparatively recent, and in connexion therewith a much larger number of people is employed in services than in material production. It follows, therefore, that material production per head of population will not measure accurately the progress of productive efficiency, but will tend to give too low a value. Unemployment, of course, will also depress it.

A better measure is given by *real* production per person engaged in material production. The second table attempts to give this. The result will give a better measure of productive efficiency, but will not take into account the effect of unemployment, though the index may be somewhat depressed by short time and rationing.

The two tables tell different stories. Before unemployment became severe in 1930, *real* production per head (as shown in the last column of the first table) had remained substantially steady with minor fluctuations since 1906. Whatever gain had been made in productive efficiency had been largely counterbalanced by the gradual change over from production of goods to production of services. Coincident with the heavy increase in unemployment between the years 1930 and 1933, the maximum being reached in 1932, the index-number fell sharply from its normal level of about 100 to 78 in 1930-31. This would imply a fall in average *real* income of nearly one-fourth from the normal level, taking unemployment into account. Apart from a slight recession in 1934-35 due to a drop in wool values the index-number rose continuously from 1931-32 onwards; the pre-depression level was reached in 1935-36 and the peak of 1924-25 was exceeded in 1937-38. This upward movement was interrupted in 1938-39 but recovered to a new high level in 1939-40. During the latter year, the rise in prices in all branches of primary production excepting agriculture coincided with a greater quantity output and increased activity in manufacturing while the retail price index rose but slightly. In consequence of these movements, the *real* production per head of population rose by 9.93 per cent. to a peak higher than that previously attained.

The index-number of *real* production per person engaged (as given in the last column of the second table) shows on the other hand, an appreciable upward tendency. It rose steeply during the war of 1914-1918, as might have been expected, fell somewhat after the war, and recovered again. In 1929-30 the fall was substantial, due partly to the lag in the fall of retail prices. It increased during the next four years to 126, only to fall again

in 1934-35 to 117 with the fall in wool prices during that year. Most of this loss was recovered in 1935-36, while in 1936-37 it advanced to a new level at which it was maintained during the following year. For reasons already stated an increase of 8.96 per cent. was recorded for 1939-40, continuing the upward movement which was interrupted by the decline of the previous year. This figure for *real* production per person engaged implies a high *real* wage for *those in employment*, and is consistent with available information concerning rate of *effective* or *real* wages, which has maintained in recent years the high level reached in the years 1927 to 1931.

Production per Head of Population.

Year.	Gross Value of Material Production.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (a) 1911 = 1,000.		Real Production per head of population (1911 = 100) measured in purchasing power over regimen of—	
	Total, £1,000.	Per head of population.					
		Actual.	Index- Number. 1911 = 100	"A" Series.	"C" Series.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
		£					
1906 ..	147,043	35.9	87	902	..	97	..
1911 ..	188,359	41.2	100	1,000	(1,000)	100	100
1913 ..	220,884	45.1	110	1,104	..	99	..
1914 ..	213,552	43.0	104	1,140	1,140	92	92
1916 ..	261,996	53.3	129	1,324	1,319	98	98
1919-20..	343,697	64.9	158	1,624	1,695	97	93
1920-21..	390,644	72.2	175	1,821	1,935	96	91
1921-22..	344,426	62.5	152	1,600	1,680	95	90
1922-23..	379,445	67.4	163	1,642	1,619	100	101
1923-24..	400,276	69.6	169	1,714	1,664	99	102
1924-25..	454,580	77.3	188	1,690	1,637	111	115
1925-26..	431,670	72.0	175	1,766	1,673	99	104
1926-27..	447,354	73.1	178	1,763	1,663	101	107
1927-28..	452,901	72.5	176	1,776	1,676	99	105
1928-29..	447,805	70.5	171	1,785	1,693	96	101
1929-30..	389,537	60.6	147	1,783	1,688	83	87
1930-31..	319,706	49.2	120	1,574	1,528	76	78
1931-32..	305,018	46.5	113	1,432	1,406	79	80
1932-33..	318,224	48.2	117	1,358	1,344	86	87
1933-34..	357,218	53.7	130	1,365	1,344	96	97
1934-35..	356,349	53.2	129	1,399	1,366	92	95
1935-36..	404,770	60.0	146	1,437	1,392	101	105
1936-37..	456,745	67.1	163	1,489	1,431	110	114
1937-38..	486,914	70.9	172	1,530	1,467	112	117
1938-39..	464,993	67.1	163	(b)	1,512	(b)	108
1939-40..	527,085	75.4	183	(b)	1,545	(b)	119

(a) For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see page 28.

(b) Not available.

## Production per Person Engaged.

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production.(a)	Value of Material Production per person engaged in Production.(a)		Real Production per person engaged (1911=100) measured in retail purchasing power over regimen of—(b)	
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911=100.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
	(1,000.)				
1906.. ..	659	223	87	96	..
1911.. ..	728	257	100	100	100
1913.. ..	756	290	113	102	..
1914.. ..	733	289	113	99	99
1916.. ..	685	381	148	112	112
1920-21 ..	760	510	199	109	103
1921-22 ..	775	441	172	107	102
1922-23 ..	793	475	185	113	114
1923-24 ..	810	491	191	111	115
1924-25 ..	826	547	213	126	130
1925-26 ..	831	515	201	114	120
1926-27 ..	841	527	205	116	123
1927-28 ..	838	536	209	118	125
1928-29 ..	830	536	209	117	123
1929-30 ..	803	482	187	105	110
1930-31 ..	728	431	168	108	112
1931-32 ..	741	411	160	112	114
1932-33 ..	781	407	158	117	118
1933-34 ..	815	437	170	125	126
1934-35 ..	862	412	160	115	117
1935-36 ..	901	448	174	121	125
1936-37 ..	930	491	191	128	134
1937-38 ..	961	504	196	128	134
1938-39 ..	962	481	187	(c)	124
1939-40 ..	979	536	209	(c)	135

(a) *Vide* following explanatory remarks. (b) For explanation of "A" and "C" Series, see page 28.  
(c) Not available.

The data for the preceding table are not complete. The numbers engaged in timber-getting are not accurately known, so that the value of production on this account, and the corresponding persons engaged, are both left out of account. Further, the information about women engaged in primary production is unsatisfactory, so that males alone are counted in primary industries. In manufacturing, the numbers are converted into equivalent male workers on the basis of relative wages for male and female workers. The column headed "numbers engaged" is, therefore, rather an index than the absolute number of individuals occupied in material production, but as an index, it should be accurate enough to give a satisfactory index of production per person engaged.

### § 3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

I. The Basic Wage.—(i) *General*.—The "basic" wage is determined by industrial tribunals in Australia operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the industrial legislation of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be

paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, the same Wages Board system exists, but by amendments of the Factories Act, operative from 17th October, 1934 (*vide* p. 75), Wages Boards are obliged to adopt the same basic wage as that determined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for similar industries.

As the power of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court is limited by the Constitution to the settlement, by conciliation and arbitration, of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State, no similar provision is to be found in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. In practice, the Court does declare a Commonwealth basic wage and uses the wage so declared as a basis for all awards made by it in the exercise of its jurisdiction. That is, upon a new basic wage being declared, the awards made in the settlement of all inter-State industrial disputes are re-opened and amended accordingly.

(ii) *Acts in Force*.—The acts in force providing for the determination of a "basic" wage are as follows:—

- (a) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1940 (Consolidated).
- (b) Victoria—Factories and Shops Act, 1928–1939.
- (c) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1938.
- (d) South Australia—The Industrial Code 1920–1937.
- (e) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General*.—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the "Harvester Judgment" on account of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works. The rate of wage declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for "a family of about five\*", and was generally referred to as the "Harvester" wage. The constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

\* The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35–39 in the wage and salary earning group (excluding unemployed) was 3.00 children of all ages, and some such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under sixteen years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under fourteen years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80. See however, page 72, for Court's interpretation in 1940 Basic Wage Inquiry of the "family unit".



The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (d) of the Excise Tariff 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia "under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable." The President discussed at length the meaning of "fair and reasonable", and stated: "These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than 'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community.'" This may therefore be taken as the original criterion adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in the fixation of its "basic" wage.

The President in his judgment stated: "My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day."

The "Harvester" basic rate was adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for incorporation in its awards and practically the same rates continued until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-numbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the table 1,000 as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain "loadings" were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.†

In 1922 an amount known as the "Powers' 3s."‡ was added as a general "loading" to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing power as disclosed by the "A" series retail price index-numbers, and of basing the adjustments on the index-number for the quarter in place of that of the previous calendar year or the year ended the preceding quarter.

\* The term "minimum" wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry, and is either equal to or greater than the "basic" wage.

† As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

‡ Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on the 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard has been the subject of much discussion, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the War of 1914-19 hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the fact that wages throughout Australia were being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission (referred to later) was appointed in 1920 to assess a basic wage, but its recommendations were not carried out.

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from the 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1934.*—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 30th April, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, operative from 1st May, 1934, full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report. The basic wage declared on this occasion (subsequently referred to as the "Needs Basic Wage, 1934") was as follows for the six capital cities:—

		s.	d.			s.	d.
Sydney	..	67	0	Adelaide	..	64	0
Melbourne	..	64	0	Perth	..	66	0
Brisbane	..	61	0	Hobart	..	67	0

Six Capital cities, 65s.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" and the "D" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates for the capital cities, which are proportionate to their respective index-numbers. In effect the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that

previously paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers" 3s., and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

The following is a comparison for the capital cities of the basic rates granted by the judgment and those ruling under previous practices of the Court :—

Comparison of Basic Rates awarded for Capital Cities.

City.	New Rates Awarded 1st May, 1934, "C" Series.	Rates being paid prior to 1st May, 1934. (a)		Increase or Decrease.		
		Under "D" Series less 10 per cent. "cut".	Under "A" Series (Full).	Over "D" Series.	Over "A" Series (Full).	Over "A" Series less 10 per cent. "cut".
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney ..	67 0	66 11	72 0	0 1	-5 0	+2 2
Melbourne ..	64 0	63 4	67 6	0 8	-3 6	+3 3
Brisbane ..	61 0	59 4	62 0	1 8	-1 0	+5 2
Adelaide ..	64 0	60 2	63 0	3 10	+1 0	+7 4
Perth ..	66 0	59 3	64 0	6 9	+2 0	+8 5
Hobart ..	67 0	64 10	70 0	2 2	-3 0	+4 0
Six Capitals	65 0	63 9	68 0	1 3	-3 0	+3 10

(a) Calculated to nearest 6d., and including "Powers' 3s." or its equivalent.

NOTE.—For explanation of the "A", "C" and "D" series see pp. 27-30 of this Report.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937.*—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined Unions for an increase in the basic wage. The Unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June. The chief features of the judgment were :

(a) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined by the 1934 judgment. The latter was referred to in the judgment as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows :—

City.				"Needs" Basic Wage.	"Loading."	Total Basic Wage.
				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney ..	..	..	..	72 0	6 0	78 0
Melbourne ..	..	..	..	69 0	6 0	75 0
Brisbane ..	..	..	..	68 0	6 0	74 0
Adelaide ..	..	..	..	68 0 (a)	4 0	72 0
Perth ..	..	..	..	70 0 (a)	4 0	74 0
Hobart ..	..	..	..	70 0 (b)	4 0	74 0
Six Capitals	..	..	..	70 0	5 0	75 0

(a) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

(b) 1s. less was being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive "loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

The "loadings" came into operation in two instalments, viz., from the beginning of the first pay-periods commencing in July and October, 1937.

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(b) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(c) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(d) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the "C" series to a special "Court" series based upon the "C" series, for an explanation of which see page 29.

(e) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (See No. 28, p. 77).

(iv) "*Lag*" in *Adjustments*.—The Commonwealth Court on 19th December, 1939, heard an application by the unions that the date of adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with the variations in the "Court" Series of Index-Numbers be brought nearer to the period upon which the variation was based. In a judgment delivered on the same day, the Court directed that such adjustments be made one month earlier. The effect, therefore, was to make future adjustments operative from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in a February, a May, an August or a November.

(v) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1940.—On 5th August, 1940, the Full Court commenced the hearing of an application by the combined unions for an increase in the existing basic wage by raising the value of 1,000 (the base of the "C" series index upon which the "Court" series are based) from 81s. to 100s. per week, and the abolition of the present "Prosperity" loadings, which would be regarded as incorporated in the new rate mentioned. The hearing was interrupted for a period of ten weeks owing to the serious illness of the Chief Judge (The Hon. Sir George S. Beeby) but was completed on 28th November, 1940. Judgment was delivered on 7th February, 1941, wherein the Court unanimously refused to grant any increase, and decided that the application should not be dismissed but stood over for further consideration after 30th June, 1941. The application was refused mainly owing to the uncertainty of the economic outlook under existing war conditions.

In regard to the popular idea that the basic wage of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was identified with a specific family unit, the Chief Judge made the following statements to clarify the position: "The Court has always conceded the 'needs' of an average family should be kept in mind in fixing a basic wage. But it has never as the result of its own inquiry specifically declared what is an average family or what is the cost of a regimen of food, clothing, shelter and miscellaneous items necessary to maintain it in frugal comfort, or that a basic wage should give effect to any such finding. In the end economic possibilities have always been the determining factor . . . . What should be sought is the independent ascertainment and prescription of the highest basic wage that can be sustained by the total of industry in all its primary, secondary and ancillary forms. That, no doubt, is the object, but the adoption of something like the real average family as the unit to be provided for is not without its use in the attainment of that object. There is no clear means of measuring the general wage-paying capacity of the total industry of a country. All that can be done is to approximate, and one of the methods of approximation is to find out the actual wage upon which well-situated labourers are at the time maintaining the average family unit. We may be pardoned for saying that Mr. Justice Higgins very wisely used this criterion in the *Harvester* case. Moreover if the average-sized families of such well-situated labourers have become accustomed to enjoy, and do actually enjoy, a certain standard of living in our community, it may reasonably be assumed that such a standard for all labourers is probably not beyond the capacity of industry in general to provide. Therefore, in determining the amount of a living or basic wage there is sound economic warranty for the ascertainment of the real average family unit and of the cost of providing something like the standard which such families of well-employed labourers have already reached. But obviously, if the real average family unit is departed from, or a standard is sought for the likely maintenance of which experience gives no reason to hope, then an unrealizable wage-level may be ordained . . . . It may be that in the light of past experience the Court should conduct a specific inquiry as to the cost of living of an average family, but under war conditions, such an inquiry would be futile. More than ever before wage fixation is controlled by the economic outlook."

The Chief Judge further stated, "I was impressed by the new evidence and argument as to the inadequacy of the earnings of the lower paid wage-earners with families. On our accepted standards of living, looking at it from the needs point of view only, I regard the present basic wage as adequate for a family unit of three persons, but think it offers only a meagre existence for a family unit of four. When the unit gets beyond four hardship is often experienced." He suggested that the more logical system would be to grade the basic wage according to family responsibilities and that, notwithstanding the increase in aggregate wages, the benefits resulting from a reapportionment of national income to increase the wages of those with more than one dependent child would more than offset the inflationary tendency of provision for a comprehensive scheme of child endowment, and that if a scheme of this nature were established, as recently announced by the Commonwealth Government\* future fixations of the basic wage would be greatly simplified. The other two Judges (O'Mara J., and Piper J.) in separate judgments agreed with that of the Chief Judge, particularly in regard to the need for a child endowment scheme as a solution of the main problem.

\* Legislation covering a scheme which became operative on 1st July, 1941, was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament on 3rd April, 1941—see page 81 for details.

(vi) *Rates Operative*.—The “basic” wage rates of the Commonwealth Court for adult males, including the “loadings” granted in 1937, operative from 1st February, 1942, are as follows:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
New South Wales—			South Australia—		
Sydney ..	91	0	Adelaide ..	86	0
Newcastle(a) ..	91	0	Five Towns ..	85	0
Broken Hill ..	92	0	Western Australia—		
Five Towns ..	91	0	Perth ..	86	0
Victoria—			Kalgoorlie ..	99	0
Melbourne ..	89	0(b)	Geraldton ..	91	0
Geelong ..			Five Towns ..	87	0
Warrnambool ..			Tasmania—		
Mildura ..			Hobart ..	87	0
Yallourn ..	95	6(b)	Launceston ..	84	0
Five Towns ..	89	0	Queenstown ..	85	0
Queensland—			Five Towns ..	86	0
Brisbane ..	86	0	Thirty Towns ..	88	0
Five Towns ..	86	0	Six Capital Cities ..	88	0

(a) Based on Sydney.

(b) Based on Melbourne.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

The rate for adult females (prescribed by the individual judges) is approximately 54 per cent. of the adult male rate.

**3. State Basic Wages.**—(i) *New South Wales*.—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard “living” wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the “living” wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. The Court, however, indicated to Industrial Boards that in view of the prosperous condition of industry they should fix the “living” wage at 8s. 6d. per day. Determinations of the “living” wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the “living” wage for adult male and female employees in the State. The first declaration by this body was made on 5th September, 1918. The Board of Trade made numerous declarations during the period 1918 to 1925, its last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board of Trade ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed *inter alia*, “not more frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State.” The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1932, directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living



wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

The variations in the living wage determined by the Industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below:—

**Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.**  
(State Jurisdiction).

Male.			Female.		
Date of Declaration.		Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Declaration.		Basic Wage per Week.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
16th February, 1914	..	2 8 0	..	..	..
17th December, 1915	..	2 12 6	..	..	..
18th August, 1916	..	2 15 6	..	..	..
5th September, 1918	..	3 0 0	17th December, 1918	..	1 10 0
8th October, 1919	..	3 17 0	23rd December, 1919	..	1 19 0
8th October, 1920	..	4 5 0	23rd December, 1920	..	2 3 0
8th October, 1921	..	4 2 0	22nd December, 1921	..	2 1 0
12th May, 1922	..	3 18 0	9th October, 1922	..	1 19 6
10th April, 1923	..	3 19 0	(a) ..	..	2 0 0
7th September, 1923	..	4 2 0	..	..	2 1 6
24th August, 1925	..	4 4 0	..	..	2 2 6
27th June, 1927	..	4 5 0	..	..	2 6 0
20th December, 1929	..	4 2 6	..	..	2 4 6
26th August, 1932	..	3 10 0	..	..	1 18 0
11th April, 1933	..	3 8 6	..	..	1 17 0
20th October, 1933	..	3 6 6	..	..	1 16 0
26th April, 1934	..	3 7 6	..	..	1 16 6
18th April, 1935	..	3 8 6	..	..	1 17 0
24th April, 1936	..	3 9 0	..	..	(b) 1 17 6
27th October, 1936	..	3 10 0	..	..	1 18 0
27th April, 1937	..	3 11 6(c)	..	..	1 18 6

(a) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.

(b) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.

(c) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for details of which and latest rates see below.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court of 23rd June, 1937, referred to on page 70, the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Commonwealth rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed

as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's "All Items" Retail Price Index-Numbers, shortly known as the "Court" Series of Index-Numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the "prosperity loadings" as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions, fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "prosperity loading" of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate; and to specify the appropriate "Court" Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

Compared with State adult basic wages of £3 11s. 6d. per week for males, and £1 18s. 6d. for females operative at the time, the alteration represented for males increases of 6s. 6d. in Sydney; 3s. 6d. in Country districts (with certain exceptions); and 4s. 6d. for railway and other Crown employees as defined by the Act. For females the increases were 54 per cent. of the foregoing, and amounted to 3s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d., respectively.

The latest rates applicable in the metropolitan area under this system of fixation and adjustment are £4 11s. per week for adult males, and £2 9s. for adult females, from the first pay period commencing in February, 1942.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age was operative in New South Wales since July, 1927, until superseded by the Commonwealth Government scheme operative from 1st July, 1941, and a brief account of the main features of the system appears in par. 5 below.

(ii) *Victoria*.—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Commonwealth Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments to variations in retail prices. With the passing of The Factories and Shops Acts, Nos. 4,275 of 1934 (proclaimed to come into operation on 17th October, 1934) and 4461 of 1936, it is now obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Commonwealth Award rates and conditions "which such Boards are under the Factory and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations". The Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

The latest Commonwealth rate for Melbourne is 89s. per week for males operative from 1st February, 1942, and the female rate approximately 54 per cent. of that or £2 8s. 0d.

(iii) *Queensland*.—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 28) of 1929, repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(a) the "basic" wage, and (b) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the "standard" hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and the two Conciliation Commissioners.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the "basic" wage are—(a) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (b) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the "basic" wage or "standard" hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a basic wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the "basic" or "living" wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows :—

#### Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921 .. .. .	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922 .. .. .	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (a) .. .. .	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930 .. .. .	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930 .. .. .	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931 .. .. .	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937 .. .. .	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938 .. .. .	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939 .. .. .	4 4 0	2 5 0
31st March, 1941 .. .. .	4 9 0	2 8 0

(a) Fixed by Basic Wage Act.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the South-Eastern Division of the State; allowances are added for the following divisions :—Northern, 10s.; North-Western, 17s. 4d.; Mackay, 5s. 6d.; and South-Western, 7s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(iv) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Code 1920-1937 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the "living" wage to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living" wage whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living" wage, but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

According to the Industrial Code 1920-1937, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living" wage is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living" wage was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living" wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living" wage for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

The variations in the living wages determined by the Board of Industry are shown below :—

#### Basic Wage Variations in South Australia.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921.. ..	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922 .. ..	3 17 6	.. ..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	.. ..	..
15th May, 1924 .. ..	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 .. ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	1 11 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 .. ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937.. ..	1 14 9
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	25th November, 1937 ..	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 .. ..	3 18 0	5th January, 1939 .. ..	1 18 0
28th November, 1940 ..	4 4 0	28th November, 1940 ..	2 1 0
27th November, 1941 ..	4 7 0	27th November, 1941 ..	2 3 6

(v) *Western Australia*.—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1937, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1937 provides that, before the 14th June in every year, the Court, of its own motion, shall determine and declare—(a) a "basic" wage to operate from the 1st July of each year, to be paid to male and female workers; and (b) wherever and whenever necessary, differential basic rates to be paid in special or defined areas of the State.

The expression "basic" wage means a sum sufficient to enable the average worker to whom it applies to live in reasonable comfort, having regard to any domestic obligation to which such average worker would be ordinarily subject. The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is made in the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act of 1930 for quarterly adjustments of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The first declaration of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week.

The variations in the annual declarations of the Court of Arbitration are shown in the following table:—

**Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.**  
(State Jurisdiction.)

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.		South-West Land Division.		Gold-fields Areas and Other Parts of State.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st July, 1926 ..	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
" " 1929 ..	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0	a4 7 0	a2 7 0
" " 1930 ..	4 6 0	2 6 5	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
" " 1931 ..	3 18 0	2 2 2	3 17 0	2 1 8	3 17 0	2 1 8
" " 1932 ..	3 12 0	1 18 11	3 13 6	1 19 8	3 18 0	2 2 2
" " 1933 ..	3 8 0	1 16 9	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 17 6	2 1 10
" " 1934 ..	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 10 0	1 17 10	3 19 6	2 2 11
" " 1935 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 2	1 18 5	4 4 4	2 5 6
" " 1936 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 9	1 18 9	4 6 0	2 6 5
" " 1937 ..	3 13 9	1 19 10	3 14 8	2 0 4	4 7 0	2 7 0
" " 1938 ..	4 0 0	2 3 2	4 1 0	2 3 9	4 13 3	2 10 4
" " 1939 ..	b4 2 2	b2 4 4	4 3 1	2 4 10	b4 16 4	b2 12 0
" " 1940 ..	4 2 8	2 4 8	4 3 3	2 4 11	4 16 3	2 12 0
" " 1941(c) ..	4 8 0	2 7 6	4 9 3	2 8 2	5 3 6	2 15 11

(a) Excluding Gold-fields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926.

(b) Applicable from 24th April, 1939.

(c) Applicable from 28th April, 1941.

The latest rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court are shown in para. (vii) on page 79.

(vi) *Tasmania*.—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Commonwealth Court, and adjust wages in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers. The latest Commonwealth male rate for Hobart is £4 7s. operative from 1st February, 1942, and the female rate approximately 54 per cent. of the male rate or £2 7s. 0d.

(vii) *Rates Prescribed.*—The “basic” wage rates of State industrial tribunals at present in force are summarized in the following table :—

Basic Weekly Wage Rates fixed by State Industrial Tribunals.

State.	“ Basic ” Wage.		Date of Operation.	Family Unit (for Male Rate).
	Males.	Females.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
New South Wales	(a) 4 11 0	(a) 2 9 0	1.2.42	(b)
Victoria(c)	4 9 0	2 8 0	„	(c)
Queensland	(d) 4 9 0	2 8 0	31.3.41	Man, wife, and three children
South Australia	4 7 0	2 3 6	27.11.41	„ „ „ „
Western Australia..	(e) 4 10 5	(e) 2 8 10	28.4.41	„ „ two „
Tasmania(c)	4 7 0	2 7 0	1.2.42	(c)

(a) Sydney, Newcastle, Port Kembla-Wollongong. Broken Hill—Males, £4 12s.; Females, £2 9s. 6d. Elsewhere—Males, £4 8s.; Females, £2 7s. 6d.

(b) Commonwealth Basic Wage operative—no defined family unit.

(c) None declared, but rates shown are those of Commonwealth Court which are followed to a large extent.

(d) South-Eastern Division. Allowances are added for other Divisions:—Northern, 10s.; North-Western, 17s. 4d.; Mackay, 5s. 6d.; and South-Western, 7s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(e) Metropolitan area. “Basic” wage for Gold-fields areas and other portions of State exclusive of the South-West Land Division—Males, £5 5s. 7d.; Females, £2 17s. South-West Land Division (excluding Metropolitan area)—Males, £4 10s. 10d.; Females, £2 9s. 1d.

4. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into the actual cost of living at that time, according to reasonable standards of comfort including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man, wife and three children under fourteen years of age. The Commission made inquiries in each State, and its report, issued in 1920, recommended the following amounts for the various capital cities, namely :—

	£	s.	d.
Sydney .. .. .	5	17	1
Melbourne .. .. .	5	16	6
Brisbane .. .. .	5	6	2
Adelaide .. .. .	5	16	1
Perth .. .. .	5	13	11
Hobart .. .. .	5	16	11
Six Capitals (Weighted Average) ..	5	15	8

The recommendations of this Commission were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance of the amounts suggested over ruling rates\* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

5. **Child Endowment.**—(i) *General.*—The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age has assumed importance in Australia, and is in operation in certain instances.

(ii) *The New South Wales Scheme.*—The first attempt in Australia to institute the system was made in New South Wales in 1919, when a Bill was introduced into the State Parliament to provide a flat basic wage for a man and wife, and an allowance of 5s. per week for each child, the latter rate to be reduced on a sliding scale and to cease when the income reached an amount of £3 per week above the basic wage. The Bill was rejected, but the subject again came up in the session of 1926–27, when Acts, which have been amended during subsequent years, provided for the payment of child allowances. The original Act was assented to on 11th April, 1927, and allowances were paid as from 23rd July, 1927. Prior to December,

\* The “Harvester” equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index-number.



1929, the Act provided for (a) the declaration of a basic wage, and (b) the payment of an allowance of 5s. per week in respect of each dependent child, subject to the provision that child allowances were to be paid only to the extent to which the total earnings of the worker and his family fell short of the sum represented by the *basic wage* plus child allowance at the rate of 5s. per week for each child. The amending Act, assented to on 23rd December, 1929, provides that, subject to the last-mentioned provision, child endowment shall be 5s. per week for each child except one in the family. Payments of child allowances in New South Wales were made from a fund created by a levy on the total amount of wages paid by employers. The rate of tax during 1930 was fixed at 1 per cent. From 1st July, 1931, the rate was fixed at 2 per cent., and from 1st January, 1932, at the rate of 5d. in the £ on all wages above £3 per week. The amount of levy collected during 1932-33 was £2,409,034, and £2,105,659 was paid away in allowances to 63,072 families. The levy was discontinued as from 1st January, 1934, the cost of endowment being met from the Special Income and Wages Tax (see p. 115), which is also used for other social services. The scheme was abolished upon the introduction of the national scheme by the Commonwealth Government in July, 1941, particulars of which appear in (iv) below.

(iii) *Commonwealth Public Service*.—The first system of child endowment in Australia was instituted within the Commonwealth Public Service. It came into operation on 1st November, 1920, when, following on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage,\* the Commonwealth Government decided to pay a basic wage of £4 a week in certain cases and child allowances to officers at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child under fourteen years of age, with a limitation of salary plus allowance of £400 per annum. As the result of proceedings before the Public Service Arbitrator in 1923, these allowances were confirmed as a permanent part of the salary scheme, and the necessary fund to meet them was created by deducting the average value of the payment from the basic wage of all adult officers. In effect, therefore, the officers themselves provided the fund from which the allowance was paid. The deduction was originally £11 per annum, but later £12. The payment of the allowance in the Service was subsequently limited to officers receiving from salary and allowance an amount not greater than £500 per annum. Further details regarding the introduction and method of calculating the payments will be found in Labour Report No. 17, and later Reports. The scheme was abolished at the instance of the officers upon the introduction of the national scheme by the Commonwealth Government in July, 1941, particulars of which appear in (iv) below. The deduction of £12 per annum was consequently discontinued from 10th July, 1941.

(iv) *National Scheme*.—The Commonwealth Government, in June, 1927, called a conference at Melbourne of the Premiers of the several States to consider the question from a national standpoint. The Prime Minister submitted various estimates of cost of endowing dependent children under fourteen years of age in Australia at 5s. per week. After discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to a Royal Commission, to be appointed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Commission submitted its Report on 15th December, 1928. It was not unanimous in its findings, and the opinions and recommendations of the members were embodied in two separate reports, which dealt

\* The Chairman of the Commission (Mr. A. B. Piddington, K.C.) in a Supplementary Report suggested that the wage of £5 16s. recommended by the Commission be split up into a flat basic wage payment of £4, and a child endowment of 12s. per week for each child, the fund for the payment of the latter allowance to be created by a tax on employers of 10s. 9d. per week per employee.

exhaustively with the constitutional aspects, existing systems, industrial legislation, the basic wage, standard of living, regulation of wages, working conditions and cognate matters.

At the conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers held at Canberra in May, 1929, the Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government was not prepared to adopt a scheme financed entirely from the proceeds of taxation, as had been recommended in the minority report. The Commonwealth Government agreed with the majority of the Commission that child endowment could not be separated from the control of the basic wage—a power which the Commonwealth did not possess and which the States were not prepared to relinquish. The Government, therefore, did not propose to establish any system of child endowment. It was generally agreed that any scheme which would increase the charges upon industry would be unwise at that particular time. The matter of child endowment was accordingly left to be dealt with as the State Governments should think proper.

The findings and recommendations in the *majority* and *minority* reports are given in Labour Report No. 19.

Early in 1941, the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to introduce a scheme of Child Endowment throughout Australia. The necessary legislation\* was introduced into Parliament on 27th March, and the passage through all stages was completed on 3rd April, 1941. The main features of the scheme, which came into operation from 1st July, 1941, are as follows :—

- (a) Payment at the rate of 5s. per week for all children under the age of sixteen in excess of one child in each family, provided the persons claiming the endowment, and the child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed have resided in Australia for the period of twelve months preceding the date of claim.
- (b) The endowment is payable to the mother of the child, or to such persons as are prescribed.
- (c) Endowment is also payable to approved institutions, not wholly or mainly dependent upon the Commonwealth or a State for their revenue, in respect of all children under sixteen years of age maintained therein.
- (d) The scheme will be financed partly from Consolidated Revenue, partly from the abolition of the exemptions from taxation in respect of children after the first and the major part from a tax of 2½ per cent. of all pay-rolls in excess of £20 per week.
- (e) The general administration of the Act is under the control of the Director-General of Social Services, and the detailed administration is carried out by the Commissioner for Pensions and other officers appointed for the purposes of the Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act.

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\* Act No. 8, 1941 (Child Endowment Act); Act No. 2, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act); and Act No. 3, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Act).

The scheme at the outset is estimated to cost £13,000,000 per annum, and apply to approximately 1,000,000 children. The number of "first" children excluded is estimated to be approximately 830,000 or 45 per cent. of the total children under sixteen years of age. The Census of 1933 disclosed that the average number of dependent children under sixteen years of age per married male was 1.36.

Consequent upon the establishment of the National Scheme, appropriate steps were taken for the termination of the schemes operating in New South Wales and the Commonwealth Public Service.

## CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

### § 1. Employment.

**1. Direct Measures of Employment.**—The following estimates of the numbers of male and female wage and salary earners in employment are based on data from the Censuses of 1911, 1921 and 1933, the National Register, 1939, and Pay-roll Tax returns which commenced in July, 1941. The figures relate to wage earners who were recorded at the Censuses as employed, and may be defined as "numbers normally occupied as wage earners" as distinct from the equivalent of full-time employment. Many wage earners are normally occupied as casual, part-time, intermittent and seasonal workers. Wage earners unemployed in the sense that they are not working and have no work to go to are excluded.

The figures exclude men engaged on Government relief works. The estimates for July, 1939 and July, 1941, are on comparable bases, but exclude employees absent on defence service whether at home or abroad.

#### Estimated Total Employment : Australia.

*Wage and Salary Earners in Employment, excluding Relief Workers.*  
(Thousands).

Year and Month.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
MALES.							
1911—April .. ..	399.0	287.3	150.7	95.7	81.2	40.6	1,056.4
1921—April .. ..	462.1	318.9	152.7	106.0	77.6	42.7	1,162.0
1933—June .. ..	444.7	332.0	180.8	99.0	87.6	38.1	1,186.1
1939—July (b) ..	601.9	404.6	219.1	128.1	100.7	47.2	1,507.8
1941—July (b) ..	632.3	447.8	212.7	142.7	99.2	48.4	1,591.9
FEMALES.							
1911—April .. ..	102.3	105.1	35.4	26.0	15.3	10.7	295.0
1921—April .. ..	131.2	118.8	44.5	31.5	19.3	11.5	357.0
1933—June .. ..	158.5	145.1	54.2	37.2	25.7	13.1	434.7
1939—July (b) ..	220.9	175.2	71.2	47.5	33.2	16.3	565.7
1941—July (b) ..	270.2	204.7	74.3	54.3	34.4	18.4	658.1

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Subject to revision.

**Estimated Total Employment : Australia—continued.***Wage and Salary Earners in Employment, excluding Relief Workers.*

(Thousands).

Year and Month.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
TOTAL.							
1911—April .. ..	501.3	392.4	186.1	121.7	96.5	51.3	1,351.4
1921—April .. ..	593.3	437.7	197.2	137.5	96.9	54.2	1,519.0
1933—June .. ..	603.2	477.1	235.0	136.2	113.3	51.2	1,620.8
1939—July (b) ..	822.8	579.8	290.3	175.6	133.9	63.5	2,073.5
1941—July (b) ..	902.5	652.5	287.0	197.0	133.6	66.8	2,250.0

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Subject to revision.

The Commonwealth and the State Statisticians have been making for some years past direct monthly collections of employment in factories and retail stores. In the case of factories, these figures give fairly reliable indexes of the course of employment fully a year before the results of the annual collections become available. In the case of retail stores, the figures yield indexes of employment where none existed before. From July, 1941, these indexes have been replaced by estimates of employment based on data derived from the collection of Pay-roll Tax. The latest figures for all States are to be found in the current issue of the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

**2. Index of Employment in Factories.**—This index is available monthly from July, 1933. "Factories" include all industrial establishments in which four or more hands are employed, or in which power other than hand is used. The index relates to employees on the pay-roll on the pay-day nearest to the 15th of the month, and includes managers, overseers, clerks and all workers except working proprietors and those engaged solely in the delivery and sale of goods.

Up to June, 1941, the index is based on the results of annual factory censuses, and actual mid-monthly factory employment of all persons is published in the *Production Bulletin* No. 34, Part I., issued by this Bureau. Estimated employment in later months, subject to subsequent revision, may be obtained from the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

The index of total factory employment divided by the index of total population fluctuated between 104 and 100 from 1926-27 to 1928-29 (the base year). It fell to 72 in 1931-32, the lowest year of the depression, and then rose steadily each year thereafter to 131.4 in 1940-41. The relative employment in factories was considerably higher in 1940-41 than it was in pre-depression years.

There have been changes in the distribution of factory employment. Thus female factory employment began to increase in 1931-32, a year sooner than male employment, and between 1928-29 and 1936-37 it increased by 4 per cent. more than male employment, after allowing for the growth of total population. The figures for 1937-38 show that this difference was

reduced to 2 per cent. during that period and this margin was maintained in 1938-39. By 1939-40, however, the female rate of increase was relatively greater than the male and compared with 1928-29, the female increase was again 4 per cent. higher than that shown by the males.

**3. Index of Employment in Retail Stores.**—This index is published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. From July, 1933, to June, 1941, it was based on a sample of retail stores. As there is no annual census of employment in retail stores, there was no means of knowing how accurately the movement of employment in these stores represents that in the whole field. Consequently this index was much less reliable than the index of employment in factories. The Australian index was an average of the State indexes weighted by the number of persons returned as engaged in "Commerce" at the Census of June, 1933. This Census industry class "Commerce" comprises both wholesale and retail dealing, and it is not possible to obtain separate figures for the latter. The numbers returned at the census as in the employee group in this class were, for Australia: Males, 212,000; females, 87,000; total, 299,000. The respective percentages returned as totally unemployed in this group were: Males, 18.1 per cent.; females, 10.6 per cent.; total, 15.9 per cent. In addition there was considerable part-time work.

From July, 1941, the index of employment in retail stores has been replaced by a new series based on the actual employees engaged by proprietors of retail stores who pay Pay-roll tax. The base of the new series is July, 1941, which equals 100 in each State, and the Australian average is based on the total number of employees of such Pay-roll taxpayers in all States.

**4. Estimates of Total Employment in New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania.**—The New South Wales Index is published by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and fuller details may be found in the *Official Year Book of New South Wales*. It refers to all wage and salary earners, and is based on the census record of employment at June, 1933, receipts of wages tax, and records of government employment since that date. Owing to the effect of enlistments and entry into wage-earning employment of persons not normally wage earners this index of employment and unemployment has been discontinued since April, 1940. A table showing the approximate number of persons employed in the middle of June in the years 1934 to 1941, with the figures at the Census of June, 1933, is published herein.

The Queensland Index published by the Queensland Bureau of Industry is compiled from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns. Enlisted men have been excluded from the estimates of employment and adjustments have been made to allow for the effect on employment of home-defence training. The figures shown for the three-monthly periods have been corrected for seasonal variation.

The Tasmanian estimate of employment is published by this Bureau and is compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment.

**Employment and Unemployment of all Available Wage and Salary Earners :  
New South Wales.**

Period.	Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment.			
	Including as employed the full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers.		Including all part-time relief workers as unemployed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
	%	%	%	%
1933 June (Census) .. ..	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1933-34 .. ..	77.9	22.1	75.9	24.1
1934-35 .. ..	83.8	16.2	81.2	18.8
1935-36 .. ..	88.6	11.4	86.1	13.9
1936-37 .. ..	91.5	8.5	90.0	10.0
1937-38 .. ..	95.7	4.3	94.5	5.5
1938-39 .. ..	94.9	5.1	93.8	6.2
1938 June .. ..	96.1	3.9	95.1	4.9
1939 June .. ..	93.7	6.3	92.6	7.4
1940 January .. ..	94.4	5.6	93.6	6.4
February .. ..	95.1	4.9	94.4	5.6
March .. ..	95.6	4.4	94.9	5.1

Owing to the effect of enlistments and entry into wage-earning employment of persons not normally wage-earners, the index of employment and unemployment has been discontinued since April, 1940.

In estimating the increase in the number of persons dependent on employment allowance was made for (a) increase in the proportion of females who were wage-earners, and (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment was not made.

At the Census of 30th June, 1933, 15,142 persons dependent on employment in New South Wales were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, &c., or "voluntarily". This number, representing 1.8 per cent. of all persons dependent on employment, is excluded from the above indexes, which relate to percentages of available wage-earners employed and unemployed.



The following table, compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, shows the approximate number of persons employed in the middle week of June of each year specified.

### Employment : New South Wales.

June.	Total in employment. (a)	Total in private employment.	Total employed in factories. (b)	Number employed by employers with ten or more employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail trade.	Wholesale trade.	Offices and commerce.
1933 (c) ..	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,340
1934 ..	639,646	518,645	162,700	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
1935 ..	694,815	567,110	182,200	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
1936 ..	741,934	613,631	199,200	18,995	47,653	22,792	25,543
1937 ..	800,405	652,947	216,900	18,555	49,877	24,808	24,857
1938 ..	839,511	688,881	229,000	20,980	51,921	25,212	26,297
1939 ..	831,555	678,577	228,900	20,873	51,667	25,212	27,277
1940 (e) ..	856,296	700,155	240,800	21,128	51,622	25,871	28,714
1941 (e) ..	908,710	745,780	282,600	20,777	53,099	26,612	29,036

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers. (b) Including Working Proprietors. (c) Census of 30th June. (d) Comparable figures not available. (e) Excluding men in the Forces who were not on pay sheets of private employers.

The following table has been compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns.

### Employment : Queensland.

Period.	Numbers in Work.			
	Employees and Workers on own Account.	Employees.	Working for no Wages.	Total.
Average—				
1932-33 ..	93,100	184,600	9,400	287,100
1933-34 ..	94,700	194,700	9,600	299,000
1934-35 ..	96,800	214,500	9,700	321,000
1935-36 ..	98,900	223,500	9,900	332,300
1936-37 ..	100,900	234,500	10,100	345,500
1937-38 ..	103,000	245,800	10,300	359,100
1938-39 ..	105,100	257,700	10,500	373,300
1939-40 ..	106,800	264,500	10,600	381,900
1940-41 ..	107,100	264,400	10,900	382,400
Three months ended—1940-41—				
July ..	106,800	265,100	10,700	382,600
August ..	106,700	262,800	10,700	380,200
September ..	106,700	262,200	10,700	379,600
October ..	106,800	263,000	10,700	380,500
November ..	106,900	263,700	10,800	381,400
December ..	107,100	262,900	10,800	380,800
January ..	107,200	265,700	10,900	383,800
February ..	107,300	264,000	10,900	382,200
March ..	107,400	264,900	10,900	383,200
April ..	107,400	264,900	11,000	383,300
May ..	107,400	266,200	11,000	384,600
June ..	107,400	266,500	11,000	384,900

In the table above enlisted men have been excluded from the estimates of employment, and adjustments have been made to allow for the effect on employment of home-defence training. The figures shown for the three-monthly periods have been corrected for seasonal variation.

## Employment : Tasmania.

Period.	Private Industry.			Public Authorities.			Total Employment— Public and Private.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1936-37 ..	30,858	9,522	40,380	10,708	1,763	12,561	41,656	11,285	52,941
1937-38 ..	34,001	10,685	44,686	10,581	1,825	12,406	44,582	12,510	57,092
1938-39 ..	37,849	12,184	50,033	10,488	1,879	12,367	48,337	14,063	62,400
1939-40 (a) ..	39,659	13,151	52,810	10,725	1,972	12,697	50,384	15,123	65,507
1940-41 (a) ..	40,123	14,820	54,943	10,023	2,148	12,171	50,146	16,968	67,114
1940-41—									
July ..	37,987	13,056	51,043	10,187	2,069	12,256	48,174	16,025	64,199
August ..	38,402	13,898	52,300	9,881	2,078	11,959	48,283	15,976	64,259
September ..	39,204	14,624	53,828	9,878	2,116	11,994	49,082	16,740	65,822
October ..	39,807	13,090	52,897	9,977	2,099	12,076	49,784	16,095	65,879
November ..	40,064	13,975	54,039	9,678	2,100	11,778	49,742	16,075	65,817
December ..	40,446	14,074	54,520	10,147	2,124	12,271	50,593	17,098	67,691
January ..	42,512	15,985	58,497	9,896	2,041	11,937	52,408	18,026	70,434
February ..	41,354	14,118	55,472	9,889	2,159	12,048	51,243	16,277	67,520
March ..	41,650	16,264	57,914	9,978	2,144	12,122	51,628	18,408	70,036
April ..	40,827	15,496	56,323	10,075	2,317	12,392	50,902	17,813	68,715
May ..	40,198	15,452	55,650	10,300	2,254	12,554	50,498	17,706	68,204
June ..	39,031	15,101	54,132	10,384	2,275	12,659	49,415	17,376	66,791

(a) Subject to revision.

The table above is compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment.

For 1938-39 and previous years the figures in the table may be regarded as a virtually complete record of total employment based on final collected figures. They are a combination of monthly figures received currently and annually, covering both private and public employment.

For the months since June, 1939, the figures are estimates based upon the current monthly movements of all public authority employment and of about 44 per cent. of total private employment.

5. **Seasonal Employment in Australia.**—An investigation concerning the extent of seasonal employment in Australia was made in 1928. The State Statisticians were invited to furnish brief reports regarding the industries and callings in their respective States subject to seasonal fluctuations, and from the reports received, supplemented by information from other sources, particulars were published in Labour Report, No. 19. The result of inquiries concerning the organization of public works in connexion with unemployment was also published in Labour Report, No. 19.

## § 2. Unemployment.

I. **Total Persons Unemployed.**—The total number of persons unemployed has been recorded only at the dates of the various Censuses. The Census records include all persons who state that they are unemployed, and distinguish between unemployment on account of sickness or accident, scarcity of work, industrial dispute, or any other cause. In 1939, the National Register recorded men aged 18 to 64 years who were unemployed, but these require certain adjustments on account of men who failed to make National Register returns. This information has been used, in conjunction with other data available from various sources, to make an estimate of the total number of males and females unemployed in July, 1939. An approximate estimate of total unemployed as at July, 1941, has been made, based largely on the trend since 1939 of the number of registered unemployed at the State Labour Exchanges. The following table sets out the numbers of unemployed recorded

at the Censuses, together with the percentage which the unemployed bore to all wage and salary earners of the same sex at the time, which number is taken as the sum of those estimated to be in employment, and the unemployed. From  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 per cent. of the total wage and salary earners are usually out of work on account of sickness and accident, and are included in the percentages.

**Unemployment (All Causes): Australia.**

Year and Month.	Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.			Proportion of Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	%	%	%
Census—						
1911—April .. ..	48.0	8.3	56.3	4.3	2.7	4.0
1921—April .. ..	139.4	21.5	160.9	10.7	5.7	9.6
1933—June (a) ..	460.3	103.1	563.4	27.9	19.1	25.8

(a) The figures shown for 1933 are in excess of those actually recorded at the Census through an allowance having been made for a number of youths and girls who would normally have been wage and salary earners, but who, on account of the economic depression, having never been employed, were not classed as wage and salary earners.

The unemployed have been estimated to be approximately  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in July, 1939, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in July, 1941, calculated on all available wage and salary earners excluding those absent in the defence forces, but including additional persons who have become wage and salary earners as a result of war conditions.

2. **Unemployment in Trade Unions.**—(i) *General.*—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment amongst trade unionists was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

From 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book, Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and the Labour Reports. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the responsible officials of the various unions for the kindly readiness with which they supplied available data.

The particulars in the following tables are based on information furnished by the secretaries of trade unions, and the number of members of unions regularly reporting has now reached over 500,000, consisting predominantly of males and representing about 54 per cent. of the total trade union membership and between 20 and 25 per cent. of all wage and salary earners. Unemployment returns are not collected from unions the members of which are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, shearers, etc.). Very few unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are in close touch with the members and with the state of trade in their particular industries. In many cases unemployment registers are kept, and employers apply to the union officials when labour is required. Provision is also made in the rules for members out of work to pay reduced subscriptions.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since 1st January, 1913. The quarterly figures show the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during

a specified week in each quarter and exclude persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs except those outside the industry who are indirectly affected. The yearly figures quoted represent the average of the four quarters.

The value of the percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns is in the indication they give of the trend of unemployment amongst trade unionists as reported by the secretaries of trade unions.

(ii) *Australia, 1891 to 1941 (June Quarter).*—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1941 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

- (a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available, (b) The number of members of such unions, (c) The number of members unemployed, and (d) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment : Australia.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 end of year ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 " " ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 " " ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1907 " " ..	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908 " " ..	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909 " " ..	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910 " " ..	109	32,995	1,857	5.6
1911 end of year ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912 " " ..	464	224,023	12,441	5.6
1913 (average for year) ..	462	246,068	16,054	6.5
1914 " " ..	459	268,938	22,344	8.3
1915 " " ..	470	276,215	25,663	9.3
1916 " " ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1917 " " ..	450	286,811	20,334	7.1
1918 " " ..	478	299,793	17,536	5.8
1919 " " ..	464	310,145	20,507	6.6
1920 " " ..	447	341,967	22,105	6.5
1921 " " ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1922 " " ..	445	380,998	35,238	9.3
1923 " " ..	436	376,557	26,672	7.1
1924 " " ..	413	397,613	35,507	8.9
1925 " " ..	380	391,380	34,620	8.8
1926 " " ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1927 " " ..	375	445,985	31,032	7.0
1928 " " ..	375	423,422	45,669	10.8
1929 " " ..	382	424,093	47,359	11.1
1930 " " ..	395	438,874	84,767	19.3
1931 " " ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 " " ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0
1933 " " ..	394	415,305	104,035	25.1
1934 " " ..	394	424,035	86,865	20.5
1935 " " ..	396	435,938	71,823	16.5

## Unemployment : Australia—continued.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1936 " " ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1937 " " ..	387	449,588	41,823	9.3
1938 " " ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.7
1939 " " ..	396	476,918	45,967	9.7
1940 " " ..	394	491,352	39,116	8.0
1938 Sept. Quarter ..	394	468,634	43,092	9.2
Dec. " ..	395	471,581	42,077	8.9
1939 March " ..	395	474,277	45,545	9.6
June " ..	398	477,149	45,183	9.5
September " ..	397	478,000	48,888	10.2
December " ..	392	478,245	44,253	9.3
1940 March " ..	394	483,806	38,307	7.9
June " ..	388	475,815	49,775	10.5
September " ..	397	496,872	36,892	7.4
December " ..	396	508,914	31,491	6.2
1941 March " ..	398	514,379	27,289	5.3
June " ..	395	517,696	18,595	3.6

(iii) *Australia, by Industries, 1940.*—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries or occupations in which employment is stable, such as railways, and those which are subject to exceptional fluctuations, such as wharf labour, agricultural, pastoral, etc., are not included. Other occupations—domestic, hotel employees, etc.—are included in the "Other and Miscellaneous" group, as their returns are not sufficiently representative.

## Unemployment in Industrial Groups : Australia, 1940.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
<b>Manufacturing—</b>				
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	18,854	958	5.1
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	64	97,134	6,467	6.7
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	56	42,748	6,910	16.2
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	22	45,238	3,232	7.2
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	12	22,168	919	4.1
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	63	54,629	3,847	7.0
VII. Building ..	46	51,345	4,135	8.0
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	19	23,465	2,115	9.3
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services	14	19,622	1,454	7.4
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	82	116,149	9,079	7.8
<b>All Groups</b> .. ..	394	491,352	39,116	8.0

(iv) *Australia, by Industries, 1912, and Quarterly, 1939 to 1941.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the September quarter of 1939 to the June quarter of 1941. The percentage of unemployed at the end of 1912 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment : Percentages by Industries, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1912, End of Year.	1939.		1940.				1941.	
		Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.
<b>Manufacturing—</b>									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	3.7	18.1	13.4	6.7	6.3	4.9	2.3	3.1	2.1
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	7.4	8.6	6.8	5.5	12.9	4.4	4.1	2.9	1.7
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	7.3	18.4	16.6	14.5	18.6	17.5	14.2	10.4	7.8
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	6.3	13.3	9.6	6.5	12.1	7.1	2.9	3.6	1.7
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	2.8	5.1	3.6	4.7	4.6	5.1	2.1	2.0	1.4
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	6.9	9.9	9.3	7.9	6.6	7.5	6.2	4.4	3.3
VII. Building ..	5.5	9.3	9.2	10.4	8.8	6.8	6.1	5.8	5.2
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	5.6	12.6	15.4	8.6	10.6	9.4	8.5	8.1	8.0
IX. Other Land Transport ..	1.1	8.7	7.7	7.3	6.8	6.9	8.7	6.3	4.3
X. Other Land Transport ..									
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	5.4	7.4	7.7	7.5	9.6	7.3	6.8	6.6	3.7
<b>AUSTRALIA .. ..</b>	5.6	10.2	9.3	7.9	10.5	7.4	6.2	5.3	3.6

(v) *States, 1940.*—In making interstate comparisons of unemployment percentages, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States, and that for some States the returns are a more representative sample than for others. The State percentages shown below, therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication of the trend of unemployment as reported by the Trade Unions. The figures in the following table show the position in each State for 1940:—

Unemployment : 1940.

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
New South Wales .. ..	115	206,004	22,425	11.0
Victoria .. ..	77	131,105	7,573	5.8
Queensland .. ..	45	67,896	3,737	5.5
South Australia .. ..	55	41,353	2,898	7.0
Western Australia .. ..	67	32,954	1,851	5.6
Tasmania .. ..	35	12,040	632	5.2
<b>Australia .. ..</b>	394	491,352	39,116	8.0

(vi) *States, 1928 to 1940 and Quarterly from 1937.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1936 were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1928 to 1940 and quarterly from 1937 onwards:—



## Unemployment : Percentages.

Period.			N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1928	Year.	..	11.3	10.9	7.0	15.0	8.2	10.6	10.8
1929	"	..	11.5	11.1	7.1	15.7	9.9	12.8	11.1
1930	"	..	21.7	18.3	10.7	23.3	10.2	17.7	19.3
1931	"	..	30.8	25.8	16.2	32.5	27.3	26.1	27.4
1932	"	..	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.0
1933	"	..	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934	"	..	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935	"	..	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936	"	..	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937	"	..	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.3
1938	"	..	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1939	"	..	11.0	10.4	5.9	9.3	7.1	8.1	9.7
1940	"	..	11.0	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.6	5.2	8.0
1937	March Qtr.	..	11.8	9.5	7.7	9.5	5.4	7.8	9.9
	June "	..	11.4	9.6	7.6	8.3	5.6	6.9	9.7
	Sept. "	..	10.5	9.5	7.2	8.4	6.6	7.2	9.3
	Dec. "	..	10.1	7.3	6.6	6.5	5.0	7.1	8.2
1938	March Qtr.	..	9.6	7.3	6.6	6.9	4.8	5.7	8.0
	June "	..	9.8	8.5	7.2	7.5	5.3	7.2	8.6
	Sept. "	..	10.0	9.7	6.3	10.0	6.1	8.5	9.2
	Dec. "	..	10.1	9.0	5.7	8.8	6.5	10.2	8.9
1939	March Qtr.	..	10.6	10.8	6.1	9.3	7.3	7.6	9.6
	June "	..	10.6	10.4	5.7	9.5	6.2	9.4	9.5
	Sept. "	..	11.6	11.2	5.8	9.4	8.2	8.3	10.2
	Dec. "	..	11.1	9.0	5.8	9.1	6.6	7.1	9.3
1940	March Qtr.	..	9.7	6.5	5.8	8.5	6.9	4.8	7.9
	June "	..	15.0	6.6	6.8	8.3	5.6	5.0	10.5
	Sept. "	..	9.8	5.9	4.9	6.6	6.0	4.6	7.4
	Dec. "	..	8.5	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.0	6.5	6.2
1941	March Qtr.	..	7.0	3.2	5.9	3.9	4.3	3.6	5.3
	June "	..	4.5	2.4	4.2	2.8	3.1	2.4	3.6

(vii) *Causes of Unemployment.*—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(a) lack of work; (b) sickness and accident; and (c) other causes. The returns from trade unions for past years show that while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentages of members unemployed through sickness and accident, and through other causes, have remained uniform at 0.7 per cent. and 0.2 per cent., respectively.

### § 3. Industrial Disputes.

I. *General.*—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lockouts) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 30 while particulars for the year 1940 are furnished below.

2. *Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1940.*—The following table deals with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1940 in industrial groups. A list of the 14 groups included in the classification will be found in the preface.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1940 was 350, as compared with 416 during the previous year. In New South Wales 313 disputes occurred, 277 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1940 amounted to 1,507,252 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 459,154 working days lost during 1939. The estimated loss of wages was £1,716,121 in 1940, as compared with £455,716 for the year 1939.

## Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1940.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Num-ber.	Estab-lish-ments In-volved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti-mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly.	Total.		
	<b>New South Wales—</b>							£
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	16	17	6,297	2,310	8,607	48,131	49,239
III.	Food, drink, etc. . . . .	3	21	719	56	775	3,410	2,418
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . . .	4	4	2,112	..	2,112	9,762	4,920
V.	Books, printing, etc. . . . .	1	1	411	..	411	411	320
VI.	Other manufacturing . . . .	4	12	1,375	434	1,809	8,901	9,615
VII.	Building . . . . .	1	1	194	..	194	1,746	1,783
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . . . .	277	613	149,804	9,358	159,162	1,158,980	1,356,768
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	64	..	64	2,400	1,898
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. .	3	7	520	80	600	3,000	2,240
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . . . .	2	2	270	..	270	1,420	1,215
	Total .. ..	313	680	161,766	12,238	174,004	1,238,161	1,430,416
	<b>Victoria—</b>							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	50	..	50	200	203
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . . .	3	3	433	282	715	2,041	1,235
VII.	Building . . . . .	7	32	2,102	103	2,205	30,830	25,561
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . . . .	6	6	5,594	..	5,594	74,694	74,076
X.	Other land transport . . . .	1	1	70	..	70	210	229
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. . . .	1	1	30	..	30	60	22
	Total .. ..	19	44	8,279	385	8,664	108,035	101,326
	<b>Queensland—</b>							
VIII.	{ (a) Coal-mining . . . . .	2	6	2,902	..	2,902	127,334	153,790
XI.	{ (b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	49	..	49	1,862	2,350
	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. .	1	1	62	14	76	2,432	1,533
	Total .. ..	4	8	3,013	14	3,027	131,628	157,673
	<b>South Australia—</b>							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	2	2	781	..	781	4,771	4,137
VI.	Other manufacturing . . . .	1	1	680	..	680	4,080	2,980
VII.	Building . . . . .	1	1	14	21	35	105	82
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	1,270	..	1,270	550	433
	Total .. ..	5	5	2,745	21	2,766	9,506	7,632
	<b>Western Australia—</b>							
VIII.	{ (a) Coal-mining . . . . .	2	2	155	288	443	3,206	3,796
XIV.	{ (b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	580	..	580	181	100
	Miscellaneous . . . . .	1	150	2,000	..	2,000	4,000	2,500
	Total .. ..	4	153	2,735	288	3,023	7,387	6,396
	<b>Tasmania—</b>							
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . . .	1	1	34	12	46	92	41
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . . . .	1	4	182	..	182	10,374	10,600
	Total .. ..	2	5	216	12	228	10,466	10,641
	<b>Northern Territory—</b>							
VII.	Building . . . . .	1	1	13	..	13	65	65
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. .	1	2	154	700	854	1,932	1,900
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . . . .	1	1	18	..	18	72	72
	Total .. ..	3	4	185	700	885	2,069	2,037

## Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1940—continued.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Num-ber.	Estab-lish-ments In-volved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti-mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly.	Total.		
	<b>Australia—</b>							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	19	20	7,128	2,310	9,438	53,102	53,579
III.	Food, drink, etc. . . . .	3	21	719	56	775	3,410	2,418
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . . .	8	8	2,579	294	2,873	11,895	6,196
V.	Books, printing . . . . .	1	1	411	..	411	411	320
VI.	Other manufacturing . . . .	5	13	2,055	434	2,489	12,981	12,595
VII.	Building . . . . .	10	35	2,323	124	2,447	32,746	27,491
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . . . .	286	629	158,482	9,358	167,840	1,371,382	1,595,234
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	4	3	204	288	492	5,068	6,146
IX.	Railway and tramway services	4	4	1,914	..	1,914	3,131	2,431
X.	Other land transport . . . .	1	1	70	..	70	210	229
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. .	5	10	736	794	1,530	7,364	5,673
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. . . .	1	1	30	..	30	60	22
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . . . .	4	153	2,288	..	2,288	5,492	3,787
	<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>178,939</b>	<b>13,658</b>	<b>192,597</b>	<b>1,507,252</b>	<b>1,716,121</b>

3. **Particulars of Principal Disputes in 1940.**—(i) *General.*—The preceding tables show the number and effect of all disputes for the year 1940 classified according to Industrial Groups. Although the number of disputes was less the figures show an increase compared with those of the previous year as regards number of workpeople involved, working days and estimated loss of wages. The tables show that of the total number of disputes (350) which occurred in 1940, no less than 286 were in connexion with the coal-mining industry, and of these 277 occurred in New South Wales. The estimated loss of wages through all disputes in Australia was £1,716,121. The loss through 277 disputes in the coal-mining industry in New South Wales was £1,356,768, or 79 per cent. of the total loss in wages for Australia.

(ii) *Details regarding Principal Disputes.*—The losses in working days for all disputes for the year amounted to 1,507,252. Brief particulars of the disputes mainly responsible for losses in working days and wages in 1940 are given below.

(iii) *Interstate.*—Disputes which extend beyond the limits of a single State, while in some cases extensive, are comparatively few in number. These disputes rarely start on an interstate basis, but develop into such through the interdependence of trade union organizations.

During 1940 one dispute of an interstate character occurred.

This dispute affected the coal-mining industry in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania, the refusal by the colliery proprietors to negotiate an agreement with the unions being given as the cause.

The demands of the miners were for a uniform 40-hour working week with adjustments of rates so that there would be no reduction in wages in consequence of the shorter week and the removal of the penalty clauses provided in the awards relating to annual leave.

Hopes had been entertained that the parties would accept the offer of the Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court (Sir George Beeby) to preside over a compulsory conference, but neither the owners nor the unions made any move in that direction and work ceased on 11th March.

The first definite move towards a settlement was made by the Queensland Coal Owners' Advisory Committee which decided to meet the representatives of the Queensland Colliery Employees' Union on 31st March to discuss a formula for the resumption of work. However, the conference

resulted in a deadlock and the coal-mining companies subsequently applied to the State Industrial Court for the deregistration of the union and cancellation of the award.

Various suggestions for a basis of settlement were made, including one that the Commonwealth Government should take over all collieries for the duration of the war.

The most promising of these moves was the suggestion by the Federal labour leader, Mr. J. Curtin, that the Australasian Council of Trade Unions should ask the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to call a conference of the parties.

On 15th April a meeting of representatives of the combined mining unions and representatives of the A.C.T.U. was held and it was decided that in the event of the Commonwealth Government or the Commonwealth Arbitration Court convening a compulsory conference the combined mining unions would attend.

A further conference held in Canberra at the end of April was attended by the Prime Minister (Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies), Mr. J. Curtin and representatives of the coal-miners and the A.C.T.U.

This conference was adjourned pending the result of a delegation of mining union leaders and representatives of the A.C.T.U. which was to interview Sir George Beeby, Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court.

When this conference achieved no results the leaders of the combined mining unions decided to convene a meeting of their executive in Sydney for 2nd May. A general conference of all unions directly concerned in the dispute was called for the same date. Pending the result of these meetings the Prime Minister agreed to defer the promulgation of regulations to enable the Commonwealth Government to re-open coal mines with volunteer labour. It was decided by these conferences that an aggregate vote should be taken on the question of returning to work. As the vote, when taken, favoured continuance of the dispute, steps were taken by the Commonwealth Government to implement the regulations.

Negotiations for a settlement were continued, however, and on 16th May it was announced that a basis for settlement had been reached at a conference attended by the union leaders, the Federal Attorney-General, the Federal Treasurer, the New South Wales Premier and the Minister for Mines.

The terms of settlement were :—(a) A conference to be held on the day of resumption of work, with the Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court presiding ; (b) any grievances still outstanding after the conference to be referred to the Court for immediate settlement ; and (c) all " free " labour to be withdrawn from mines, and all members of the combined mining unions to be reinstated in their jobs.

Work was resumed after a stoppage of about ten weeks.

(iv) *New South Wales*.—Refusal by the management to recognize a claim by a miner for a " deficient place " was given as the cause of a dispute involving coal-miners at Wongawilli Colliery, Dapto, in January, 1940. Attempts at settlement were unavailing, and the dispute was still in progress when the general stoppage of coal-miners commenced in February, 1940.

Dissatisfaction with the practice (which had been in operation for several years) of sending men off for meal break at different times within the award provisions was given as the cause of a stoppage of work at the Australian Iron and Steel Ltd. works at Port Kembla in February, 1940. The employees requested the management to allow all employees to take the

meal break at the same time, but this was refused. After a stoppage of about thirteen weeks, the dispute was settled by a decision of the New South Wales Industrial Commission that award conditions prevailing before the dispute be observed.

Colliery employees in the Southern District of New South Wales were idle owing to a dispute, for about eight days in October, 1940. The reason given for the stoppage was dissatisfaction with an award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. A compulsory conference was called under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act and work was resumed pending the result of this conference.

The dismissal of an employee was reported as the cause of a stoppage of work for six days by munition workers at Lithgow in November, 1940. Approximately 2,450 workers were involved and work was resumed as the cause of direct negotiations between the employers and employees' representatives, the dismissed employee being reinstated.

Reductions in wages to several classifications and minor alterations in conditions brought about as a result of appeals by the unions and employers before the full bench of the Industrial Commission was given as the cause of a dispute involving ironworkers at Port Kembla in November, 1940.

Approximately 1,400 workpeople were concerned either directly or indirectly and the dispute, which lasted about two weeks, was settled by the intervention of the New South Wales Arbitration Court, certain minor concessions being agreed to by the employers and accepted by the employees.

Coal-mining employees in the northern districts of New South Wales were involved in a dispute in December, 1940. The cause of the dispute was the alleged infringement by the employers of a seniority custom.

A compulsory conference under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act was called and as a result work was resumed after a stoppage for three days.

(v) *Victoria*.—The refusal by the employers to grant demands for special allowances and a reversion to a five-day week was given as the cause of a dispute involving builders at Deer Park in October, 1940. The dispute which lasted for about three weeks was settled by negotiations between representatives of the employees and the Minister for Labour.

The refusal of a demand for one shilling a day above award rates was reported as the cause of a dispute in the building industry at Fishermen's Bend in November, 1940. As the result of a tribunal presided over by Judge Drake-Brockman the employees agreed to accept a smaller increase than originally demanded and work was resumed after a stoppage of about two weeks.

(vi) *Queensland*.—A reduction in the "darg" was given as the cause of a dispute involving persons employed in the coal-mining industry at the State Coal Mine, Collinsville, in October, 1940. After a stoppage of more than two weeks work was resumed on terms set out by the Minister of Mines. These terms were:—(a) No interference by the union with the output of the mine; (b) the manager to employ new labour as required; (c) three turnkeepers to be appointed to attend to distribution of skips; and (d) the docked wages to be refunded.

Work was resumed under protest, the matters in dispute to be submitted to the Board of Reference for final decision.

The refusal of a claim for increased wages, double time for Sunday work and work after midnight was given as the cause of a dispute involving metal-liferous miners at Mount Isa in October, 1940. Negotiations between the parties concerned were successful in finding a basis for settlement, tradesmen

being granted an increase and the balance of the claims to be submitted to the State Industrial Court. Work was resumed after a stoppage of about six weeks.

4. **Industrial Disputes, 1936 to 1940.**—(i) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1936 to 1940, and the aggregate for the period :—

**Industrial Disputes : Australia.**

Year.	Manu- facturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscel- laneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			Coal- mining.	Other Mining.			
NUMBER.							
1936 ..	30	3	171	13	3	15	235
1937 ..	59	2	249	12	6	14	342
1938 ..	43	3	314	6	4	6	376
1939 ..	20	3	362	4	6	21	416
1940 ..	36	10	286	3	10	5	350
1936-40 ..	188	21	1,382	38	29	61	1,719
WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.							
1936 ..	5,480	581	45,600	7,022	375	1,529	60,587
1937 ..	17,353	30	72,492	3,543	574	2,181	96,173
1938 ..	12,822	4,270	122,379	1,820	1,870	793	143,954
1939 ..	8,818	57	137,792	900	2,017	3,246	152,830
1940 ..	15,986	2,447	167,840	492	3,514	2,318	192,597
1936-40 ..	60,459	7,385	546,103	13,777	8,350	10,067	646,141
WORKING DAYS LOST.							
1936 ..	199,641	2,337	224,113	37,582	8,087	25,488	497,248
1937 ..	214,869	180	307,699	20,736	2,959	10,668	557,111
1938 ..	294,062	34,520	928,860	20,224	59,068	1,260	1,337,994
1939 ..	108,709	563	291,067	3,805	35,016	19,994	459,154
1940 ..	81,799	32,746	1,371,382	5,068	10,705	5,552	1,507,252
1936-40 ..	899,080	70,346	3,123,121	87,415	115,835	62,962	4,358,759
ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.							
1936 ..	£ 160,259	£ 1,846	£ 249,767	£ 36,408	£ 5,480	£ 15,065	£ 468,825
1937 ..	165,618	211	313,052	20,133	2,572	5,159	506,745
1938 ..	239,222	31,847	973,659	23,103	35,062	927	1,303,820
1939 ..	83,540	424	335,933	4,728	22,114	9,877	455,716
1940 ..	75,108	27,491	1,595,234	6,146	8,333	3,809	1,716,121
1936-40 ..	723,747	61,819	3,466,745	90,518	73,561	34,837	4,451,227

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII.). For the year 1940 these disputes represented 82 per cent. of the total for the year.



During the past five years, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 3,123,121, representing 72 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any of the other States.

(ii) *States*.—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1936 to 1940, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given hereunder.

#### Industrial Disputes: States.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
New South Wales	1936	188	231	50,557	1,728	52,285	432,513	£ 414,375
	1937	296	391	84,323	3,515	87,838	434,617	403,158
	1938	340	483	116,378	8,160	124,538	1,029,427	1,012,915
	1939	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	419,330
	1940	313	680	161,766	12,238	174,004	1,238,161	1,430,416
Victoria	1936	10	22	1,599	224	1,823	12,251	9,899
	1937	11	11	3,770	44	3,814	70,753	57,182
	1938	19	38	7,678	2,612	10,290	104,336	87,595
	1939	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946
	1940	19	44	8,279	385	8,664	108,035	101,326
Queensland	1936	12	12	1,052	194	1,246	14,653	12,325
	1937	10	11	792	203	995	15,681	15,699
	1938	5	9	2,657	..	2,657	87,539	87,379
	1939	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
	1940	4	8	3,013	14	3,027	131,628	157,673
South Australia	1936	1	1	101	..	101	505	400
	1937	6	15	1,257	52	1,309	3,951	2,464
	1938	2	2	73	52	125	249	223
	1939	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
	1940	5	5	2,745	21	2,766	9,506	7,632
Western Australia	1936	19	49	3,408	1,309	4,717	32,408	27,714
	1937	12	45	1,445	220	1,665	14,397	12,570
	1938	7	21	2,994	650	3,644	43,768	43,278
	1939	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
	1940	4	153	2,735	288	3,023	7,387	6,396
Tasmania	1936	4	4	369	6	375	3,718	3,212
	1937	4	7	374	5	379	17,016	14,964
	1938	2	4	2,200	..	2,200	72,175	72,030
	1939	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
	1940	2	5	216	12	228	10,466	10,641
Northern Territory	1936	1	1	32	8	40	1,200	900
	1937	3	3	160	13	173	696	708
	1938	1	1	500	..	500	500	400
	1939	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
	1940	3	4	185	700	885	2,069	2,037
Aust. Cap. Territory	1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1938	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1940	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	1936	235	320	57,118	3,469	60,587	497,248	468,825
	1937	342	483	92,121	4,052	96,173	557,111	506,745
	1938	376	558	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,994	1,303,820
	1939	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	450,154	455,716
	1940	350	899	178,939	13,658	192,597	1,507,252	1,716,121

5. *Duration of Industrial Disputes*.—(i) *General*.—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted :—(a) One day or less ; (b) two days and more than one day ; (c) three days and more than two days ; (d) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week) ; (e) one week and under two weeks ; (f) two weeks and under four weeks ; (g) four weeks and under eight weeks ; and (h) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1936 to 1940.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1936 to 1940 are given in the following table :—

Duration of Industrial Disputes : Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
1 day and less ..	1936	89	20,378	845	21,223	21,223	£ 23,564
	1937	140	41,050	966	42,016	42,016	44,049
	1938	196	68,015	813	68,828	68,828	77,346
	1939	230	96,184	1,191	97,375	97,375	106,070
	1940	201	106,783	8,048	114,831	113,866	135,107
2 days and more than 1 day ..	1936	37	9,176	403	9,579	10,156	20,382
	1937	72	17,695	307	18,002	36,004	36,749
	1938	56	15,928	462	16,390	32,780	33,069
	1939	60	16,308	872	17,270	31,510	35,648
	1940	51	16,102	1,104	17,206	34,167	33,694
3 days and more than 2 days ..	1936	19	4,636	685	5,321	15,963	16,923
	1937	20	5,776	55	5,831	17,493	19,444
	1938	38	8,869	793	9,662	28,986	31,233
	1939	38	10,103	1,374	11,477	31,131	36,127
	1940	23	11,339	1,785	13,124	36,112	45,961
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (6 days) ..	1936	33	8,252	545	8,797	38,170	38,853
	1937	37	11,041	1,177	12,218	56,114	53,330
	1938	27	6,460	675	7,144	31,558	33,159
	1939	34	7,540	404	7,944	36,387	37,056
	1940	20	3,871	143	4,014	17,662	17,263
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	1936	25	6,774	173	6,947	46,511	48,248
	1937	40	7,312	947	8,259	62,352	66,061
	1938	30	7,826	5,971	13,797	115,605	98,218
	1939	34	6,864	2,160	9,024	75,313	67,736
	1940	26	14,849	1,769	16,618	115,550	115,966
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1936	16	2,884	424	3,308	53,261	46,705
	1937	16	3,418	202	3,620	52,241	44,986
	1938	11	1,461	101	1,562	23,534	21,256
	1939	10	5,002	3,224	8,226	116,182	116,882
	1940	16	5,458	790	6,248	102,739	100,029
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1936	10	1,170	114	1,284	37,704	28,671
	1937	9	3,546	218	3,764	120,688	95,807
	1938	13	23,376	1,327	24,703	887,172	883,218
	1939	6	618	307	925	25,463	15,008
	1940	8	3,327	19	3,346	151,934	177,028
8 weeks and over ..	1936	6	3,848	280	4,128	265,260	245,479
	1937	8	2,283	180	2,463	161,203	151,719
	1938	5	536	1,332	1,868	149,531	126,113
	1939	4	510	61	580	30,153	30,080
	1940	5	17,210	..	17,210	935,222	1,091,073
Total ..	1936	235	57,118	3,469	60,587	497,248	468,825
	1937	342	92,121	4,052	96,173	557,111	506,745
	1938	376	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,994	1,303,820
	1939	416	113,228	9,602	122,830	150,154	155,716
	1940	350	178,939	13,658	192,597	1,507,252	1,716,121

**6. Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, namely:—(1) Wages; (2) hours of labour; (3) trade unionism; (4) employment of particular classes or persons; (5) working conditions; (6) sympathy; and (7) other causes.\* The first five groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia, 1913 and 1934 to 1940.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years specified.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
NUMBER.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	42	10	9	16	28	10	13	16
(b) Against decrease ..	4	3	5	1	1	2	4	1
(c) Other wage questions	31	31	44	48	77	67	58	54
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	3	..	..	1	2	2	12	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	7	6	2	4	4	1	9	20
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	8	4	4	4	5	5	1	2
(b) Other union questions	5	8	12	16	14	43	48	34
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	52	53	81	80	106	107	80
5. Working conditions ..	51	25	40	43	72	73	90	46
6. Sympathy ..	5	3	1	5	11	4	1	7
7. Other causes ..	8	13	13	16	38	63	73	90
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>350</b>

WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	8,633	7,210	2,161	2,014	7,678	967	4,384	4,242
(b) Against decrease ..	563	2,817	339	40	15	914	279	296
(c) Other wage questions	7,160	8,335	11,804	12,930	21,588	21,399	17,094	17,841
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	460	..	..	20	429	4,050	4,150	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1,819	309	1,601	488	1,474	36	3,383	7,635
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	5,370	383	581	1,612	3,542	1,659	21	254
(b) Other union questions	1,418	2,184	2,532	4,011	5,889	13,241	16,030	10,314
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	15,638	11,497	22,978	20,401	30,020	28,691	28,955
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	6,062	11,298	10,985	17,854	40,206	28,092	14,614
6. Sympathy ..	947	1,045	22	1,062	3,235	1,260	2,600	4,973
7. Other causes ..	1,758	6,875	5,487	4,447	14,068	30,204	48,106	103,473
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>50,283</b>	<b>50,858</b>	<b>47,322</b>	<b>60,587</b>	<b>96,173</b>	<b>143,954</b>	<b>152,830</b>	<b>192,597</b>

\* The heading "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following:—(a) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery; (b) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity.

## Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia—continued.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1940.
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	100,069	108,277	71,567	33,439	144,372	32,390	24,115	25,590
(b) Against decrease ..	9,438	35,459	1,621	120	30	7,340	4,472	592
(c) Other wage questions	78,183	40,219	73,020	32,068	107,904	116,468	67,550	92,473
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	2,774	..	..	340	1,897	34,300	21,636	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	15,111	1,748	48,878	9,577	4,442	900	10,752	20,977
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	91,002	3,263	3,615	7,509	20,750	2,906	63	1,866
(b) Other union questions	32,383	10,774	11,696	9,616	9,569	80,280	52,086	15,553
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	191,723	110,166	144,453	266,310	138,428	104,454	81,101	105,166
5. Working conditions ..	73,563	26,223	64,612	119,475	85,746	744,147	108,409	33,709
6. Sympathy ..	24,066	11,174	44	10,209	11,230	4,440	2,600	16,196
7. Other causes ..	5,212	23,083	75,618	8,585	32,743	210,369	86,370	1,195,130
Total ..	623,528	370,386	495,124	497,248	557,111	1337994	459,154	1,507,252

The main causes of industrial disputes are "wage" questions, "working conditions", and "employment of particular classes or persons".

The number of disputes concerning "wages" in 1940 was 71, representing 20 per cent. of the total. The heading "Employment of particular classes or persons" includes stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who were considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over "Employment" questions in 1940 numbered 80, or 23 per cent. of the total, and over "Working Conditions" 46, or 13 per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings numbered 197, or 56 per cent. of the total dislocations during the year.

7. Results of Industrial Disputes—(i) General.—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute and are comprised in one or other of the following four classes, namely:—

(a) In favour of workpeople; (b) In favour of employer; (c) Compromise; (d) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result:—(a) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers; (b) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand; (c) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers; (d) Indefinite, when, for example, employees cease work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of "Sympathetic" disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally "Indefinite" except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii) *Results in each State, 1940.*—The following table shows the industrial disputes in 1940, classified according to results.

Industrial Disputes: Results, 1940.<sup>(a)</sup>

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	80	204	5	22	27,507	120,633	1,400	23,936	105,925	241,777	3,272	878,875
Victoria	13	4	2	..	6,022	2,549	93	..	39,625	68,124	286	..
Queensland	..	1	1	1	49	2,600	76	302	1,862	122,200	2,432	5,134
South Australia	2	2	1	..	1,950	781	35	..	4,630	4,771	105	..
Western Australia	1	2	1	..	580	2,311	132	..	181	6,810	396	..
Tasmania	1	..	1	..	182	..	46	..	10,374	..	92	..
N. Territory	1	..	1	1	13	..	18	854	65	..	72	1,932
A. C. Territory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total, Aust. ..	99	213	12	24	36,303	128,874	1,800	25,092	162,662	443,682	6,655	885,941

(a) The following particulars of disputes which were incomplete at 31st December, 1940, should be added to the above figures to effect a balance with those published in the preceding tables:—

State.	Number.	Estab- lishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.	Working Days Lost.
New South Wales ..	2	2	528	8,312

(iii) *Australia, 1940.*—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia for the year 1940, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

Industrial Disputes: Causes and Results, Australia, 1940.

Classified according to Causes and Results.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
<b>Wages—</b>												
(a) For Increase	8	5	1	2	1,897	785	43	1,517	13,486	3,561	86	8,457
(b) Against decrease	..	1	..	..	..	296	..	..	..	592	..	..
(c) Other Wage questions	17	33	1	3	7,188	8,997	396	1,260	60,663	30,154	396	1,260
<b>Hours of Labour—</b>												
(a) For reduction	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Other disputes re hours	6	12	1	..	3,675	3,856	76	..	7,585	10,148	2,432	..
<b>Trade Unionism—</b>												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	1	1	..	..	194	60	..	..	1,746	120	..	..
(b) Other union questions	10	21	..	3	2,046	8,071	..	197	2,585	12,589	..	379
<b>Employment of particular Classes or Persons</b>	27	42	8	2	14,402	11,818	1,267	968	52,004	32,857	3,663	9,136
<b>Working conditions</b>	16	28	..	2	3,011	11,096	..	507	7,398	22,849	..	3,462
<b>Symathy</b>	2	3	..	2	764	1,999	..	2,210	4,297	5,537	..	6,362
<b>Other Causes</b>	12	67	1	10	3,126	81,896	18	18,433	12,898	325,275	72	856,885
Total(a) ..	99	213	12	24	36,303	128,874	1,800	25,092	162,662	443,682	6,655	885,941

(a) See note to table above.

(iv) *Australia, 1936 to 1940.*—The table hereunder shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the five years 1936 to 1940, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes : Results, Australia.

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1936 ..	44	165	7	19	13,997	40,279	908	5,403	248,363	179,748	7,027	62,110
1937 ..	86	206	7	41	23,939	58,665	713	12,273	192,181	285,755	3,744	37,395
1938 ..	94	229	18	34	24,953	75,100	6,037	36,201	90,375	149,959	45,205	1,022,521
1939 ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791
1940(a) ..	99	213	12	24	36,303	128,874	1,800	25,092	162,662	443,682	6,655	885,941

(a) See note to table on page 102.

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in earlier years, but of late years the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1940 was 61. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

8. **Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

- (i) By negotiation.
- (ii) Under State Industrial Act.
- (iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
- (iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
- (v) By closing down establishments permanently.
- (vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and relates mainly to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.



(ii) *Australia, 1913 and 1934 to 1940*—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder :—

**Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes : Australia.**

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.(a)
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	119	84	130	174	265	245	277	192
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	17	2	3	16	9	17	17	12
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	19	10	7	3	6	3	5	6
By reference to Board or Court ..	22	8	6	6	4	9	2	7
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	4	5	5	2	2	9	6	25
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	13	2	8	4	5	..	1	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	2	4	..	1	..	2	1
By other methods ..	13	40	18	30	48	92	106	105
Total ..	208	153	181	235	340	375	416	348

**WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.**

Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	25,469	30,360	44,251	72,430	70,481	80,193	55,084
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	3,172	891	285	5,061	2,764	4,845	2,489	3,520
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	6,505	4,559	3,867	291	1,804	1,844	4,925	2,766
By reference to Board or Court ..	12,774	1,666	1,445	1,746	428	5,519	429	2,617
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	659	4,335	2,017	339	480	21,289	3,268	35,203
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	658	138	3,670	141	825	..	20	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	170	444	108	..	86	..	173	13
By other methods ..	2,988	13,092	5,436	8,758	16,773	38,313	61,326	92,866
Total ..	50,283	50,594	47,188	60,587	95,590	142,291	152,830	192,069

(a) See note to table on page 102.

## Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.(a)
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	182,260	192,903	234,373	396,410	203,175	245,709	152,848
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	26,335	20,019	3,211	202,949	18,517	64,220	52,943	21,018
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	187,871	58,801	117,762	3,047	48,769	11,796	35,647	8,665
By reference to Board or Court ..	221,769	10,474	16,961	24,503	7,354	326,881	3,366	30,420
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	2,105	46,814	24,601	7,152	4,120	629,075	46,450	1,032,801
By Filling Places of Work—								
People on Strike or Locked out ..	14,139	138	74,873	2,581	12,571	..	20	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	20,400	4,486	7,546	..	172	..	3,802	377
By other methods ..	56,509	41,322	48,943	22,643	31,162	72,913	71,127	252,811
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>623,528</b>	<b>364,314</b>	<b>486,800</b>	<b>497,248</b>	<b>519,075</b>	<b>1,308,060</b>	<b>459,154</b>	<b>1,498,940</b>

(a) See note to table on page 102.

In each of the years included above, direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. In the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 43 in 1925 and 78 in 1937. In 1940 the percentage was 55. In connexion with the comparatively large number of disputes classified as settled "By other methods", stoppages of work frequently occur, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

#### § 4. Relief of Unemployment.

1. **Special Legislation for Relief of Unemployment.**—(i) *General.*—The position in regard to unemployment in Australia became so serious during 1930 that the usual methods of providing funds for relief work and sustenance were found to be inadequate. The cessation of loans, and the general depression in industry and business, due mainly to the decline in the prices of primary products, brought about an economic crisis in all States. The number of persons thrown out of work increased rapidly, with little prospect of conditions improving during the immediate future. The various Governments realized that special action was necessary to provide additional funds to relieve the distress caused by continued unemployment, as the money ordinarily available was not sufficient to meet the abnormal conditions.

The steps taken by the Government to provide relief, and the legislation enacted in the years 1930 to 1940 for that purpose are briefly reviewed in preceding issues of the Labour Report. Mention is made below of the legislation introduced in 1940, and a summary is given of the current methods employed for the raising of funds and the distribution of relief in the various States.



On wages of £5 to £20 per week the tax is 3s. 1d. on £5 to £5 1s. 11d. and 1d. for each additional 2s. or part thereof, except that 2d. is levied on that part of each £ exceeding 2s. but not exceeding 3s. 11d. Where the wages exceed £20 per week the tax is 14s. 3d. on the first £20 of wages and  $\frac{1}{3}$ d. on each 1s. 8d. over £20. Persons maintaining a dependant (i.e., spouse, child under 16 years of age, invalid child or brother or sister aged 16 years or over, or parent) are exempt if their earnings do not exceed the basic wage for Sydney and other employees if their earnings do not exceed £3 per week. Tax on wages and salaries at rates higher than the limit of exemption is payable on the full amount of pay without deduction except a tax rebate of 6d. per week for each dependant.

Since 1st November, 1940, there has been rebate of tax where necessary to provide that the tax will not reduce the wages of the taxpayer below the taxable limit—Thus weekly wages (single person) of—

£3 os. 1d.—tax according to Scale is 9d. reduced by rebate to 1d.

The rate of tax where no income is derived from wages is as follows (on income derived in 1939-40):—

Net Assessable Income.	Rate of Tax per £.		
	1st £100.	2nd £100.	Balance.
	d.	d.	d.
Not exceeding £218 .. ..	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	11
Over £218 but not over £260 .. ..	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	11
„ £260 „ „ „ £312 .. ..	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	11
„ £312 „ „ „ £1,040 .. ..	9	10	11
„ £1,040.. .. ..	9	11	{ £800 at 11d. Balance at 12d.

Where the income is derived partly from wages and partly from other sources the rate is calculated in regard to total income. Persons resident in Australia whose income from all sources does not exceed £156 per annum if without dependant, or £220 if maintaining a dependant are not required to pay the tax. Pension derived by residents with total income not exceeding £200 is exempt; also exempt, in the case of members of the naval, military or air forces enlisted for service in Australia are allowances (e.g., to dependants) received after 31st March, 1941, and, if total income from all sources does not exceed £200, pay as members of the forces after 31st March, 1941. A tax rebate of 26s. is allowed in respect of each dependant of a resident taxpayer.

(iv) *Victoria*.—Legislation passed in 1940 was as follows:—Unemployment Relief Tax (Rates) Act 1940, No. 4772.

The rates of tax are on a sliding scale according to income, commencing at a rate of 1.57d. in the £ for incomes of £105 to £207; 1.97d. from £208 to £312; 2.01d. from £313 to £350; and so on up to a maximum rate of 6.32d. for incomes in excess of £3,000.

(v) *Queensland*.—The Income (State Development) Tax Act of 1938, which levies tax upon incomes from employment and other sources for the purpose of aiding in the improvement of the general economic welfare of

the State and of employment generally was amended in 1941, increasing the exemption to the basic wage then determined by the Court—£232. The amended rates, which were operative from 31st March, 1941, are as follows :—

#### Income from Employment.(a)

Annual Rate of Income.						Rate of Tax per £.
						d.
Not exceeding £232	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Exceeding £232 but not exceeding £248	..	..	..	..	..	3
" £248 " " " £499	..	..	..	..	..	6
" £499 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	9

(a) The schedule is for the South Eastern (Basic Wage) Division of the State. Other districts have appropriate schedules prescribed.

#### Income other than from Employment.

Annual Ratable Income.						Rate of Tax per £.
						d.
Not exceeding £248	..	..	..	..	..	3
Exceeding £248 but not exceeding £499	..	..	..	..	..	6
" £499 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	9

Persons with an income not exceeding £232 are exempt from tax.

(vi) *South Australia*.—Legislation covering special taxation for unemployment relief has not been enacted, the necessary funds being voted by Parliament from revenue.

(vii) *Western Australia*.—No legislation dealing with this subject was passed from 1932 to 1940. Special taxation has not been imposed, all money for the purposes being provided by the Government, Municipal Authorities and other bodies. There is a Hospital Tax of 1½d. in the £ applicable to all incomes over £1 per week (from 1st January, 1931). An amendment of the Financial Emergency Tax Assessment Act, 1932, provides for a graduated tax of 4d. to 9d. in the £ from 1st October, 1933, exemption being granted to all persons having an income of under 30s. per week, and to persons with dependants having an income of under £187 per annum. Under an amendment operating from 1st January, 1937, the maximum of the graduated scale was raised from 9d. to 1s. in the £, and the exemption granted to persons with dependants was raised to £194 per annum. By further amendments the exemption was lifted to £199 per annum from 1st January, 1938, to £213 per annum from 1st January, 1939, and to £216 per annum from 1st January, 1940. The Financial Emergency Tax was abolished as from 1st July, 1940.

(viii) *Tasmania*.—Legislation passed in 1940 comprised the Public Works Execution Acts, (1) and (2), Nos. 59 and 83 of 1940 ; Federal Aid Roads and Works Execution Acts (1) and (2), Nos. 9 and 50 of 1940.

There is no special taxation for unemployment relief, relief work and sustenance is provided from revenue.

## 2. Unemployment Relief—Sustenance Rates.—(i) *New South Wales.*—

The Employment Council supervises measures for the placement of the residual unemployed in industry, and special arrangements are made for placing and training young men (aged 19 to 25) in skilled occupations. The wages of some of these trainees are supplemented by the State. Where works are declared by proclamation to be works for the unemployed the wages, hours and conditions of employment may be fixed by the Minister for Labour and Industry. The labour for relief works is engaged usually through the Labour Exchanges organized in the Department of Labour and Industry. A social aid service has been established to relieve distress arising from unemployment or other cause, and, as far as practicable, to rehabilitate the persons concerned. In addition to food relief, according to the scale shown in the next table, special foods may be provided for the sick and invalided, and a pint of milk per day for mothers (before and after child-birth) and for children under seven years of age. Clothing and boots are issued twice a year and free medical and dental attention and medicine are provided where necessary. Persons are not eligible for social aid if the family income exceeds a certain limit. In assessing income appropriate exemption is allowed in respect of earnings.

The method of distributing food relief by means of orders to suppliers introduced in 1932-33 is still in operation. The following statement shows the value of food relief orders (exclusive of special foods) per fortnight for the various family units:—

Family Unit.	Scale.	Food Relief (Per fortnight).			
		Limit of Income.	Value (Metropolitan).		
			12th November, 1936, to 1st August, 1939.	From 1st August, 1939, to 17th July, 1941.	From 17th July, 1941.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Single Adult .. ..	A	1 5 0	0 15 0	0 17 0	1 0 0
Married Couple .. ..	B	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 11 0	1 14 0
" " 1 child ..	B1	2 10 0	1 18 0	2 1 0	2 4 0
" " 2 children ..	B2	3 0 0	1 19 6(a)	2 3 0(a)	2 6 0(b)
" " 3 " ..	B3	3 5 0	2 5 6(a)	2 9 0(a)	2 12 0(b)
" " 4 " ..	B4	3 10 0	2 11 6(a)	2 15 0(a)	2 18 0(b)
" " 5 " ..	B5	3 15 0	2 17 6(a)	3 1 0(a)	3 4 0(b)
" " 6 " ..	B6	4 5 0	3 3 6(a)	3 7 0(a)	3 10 0(b)
" " 7 " ..	B7	4 15 0	3 9 6(a)	3 13 0(a)	3 16 0(b)
Each additional Child ..	..	0 10 0	0 6 0(a)	0 6 0(a)	0 6 0(b)

(a) In most cases, recipients of food relief who had two or more children under 14 years, 14½ years from 1st December, 1939, also received Family Endowment at the rate of 10s. per fortnight for each child (except one) under the age of 14 years. (b) Recipients also receive Commonwealth Child Endowment 10s. per fortnight for each child under 16 years (except one in family).

Juveniles between the ages 15 and 21 receive relief on the "single adult" scale, also children at age 14 for whom family allowance or widow's pension is not being paid.

The majority of relief workers are paid at award rates, and the scale of work is two weeks in eight for single men, or two weeks in four for married men, with longer periods for men with the larger families.



(ii) *Victoria*.—Sustenance payments are locally administered by Public Assistance Committees appointed under Act 4079 by the councils of the respective municipalities in which they are to function. The system of "working for sustenance" which was in operation in isolated instances only, was generally instituted on 3rd July, 1933.

The following are the weekly rates of sustenance in operation from 21st October, 1940 :—

Family Unit.	Maximum Weekly Permissible Income.	Maximum Weekly Sustenance that may be Granted to—		
		Unemployable applicant for whom Sustenance has been Specially Authorized by the Hon. the Minister.	Employable Applicant for whom Work in Return for Sustenance is not Provided.	Employable Male Working in Return for Sustenance, vide Section (8) of the Act.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Itinerant unemployed male	10 0	..	11 0	17 6
Approved prospector Individual residing with strangers or relatives other than parents	12 0	..	11 0	17 6
Single unemployed employable male 21 years of age or over as member of family unit the head of which is in receipt of sustenance	12 0 In accordance with family unit of which he is a member	6 6	11 0	17 6
Two ..	20 0	9 9	18 6	10 0 30 6
Three ..	25 0	And for each unemployed dependant irrespective of age residing with the applicant 5s. per week: Provided in any instance, the total value of sustenance does not exceed £3 17s. 6d. per week.		
For every additional member of the family unit there shall be added to the sum of 25s., a sum of 2s. 6d. for each such additional member.		And for each unemployed dependant residing with the applicant—5s. per week for each male dependant under 21 years of age, and each female dependant irrespective of age: Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed £3 17s. 6d. per week.		

"Income" includes the full amount of money earned weekly by the applicant and all members of the family residing with him or with whom he is residing and any pension, allowance, bonus, commission, or other benefit and money received from all sources, but does not include money received from charitable organizations or societies, or by way of endowment under the Commonwealth Child Endowment Act No. 8 of 1941.

In no instance must the total amount of the income received by the family and the value of the sustenance granted exceed £4 os. 6d. in any one week. In assessing the amount of income to decide eligibility to receive sustenance, the following amounts are not taken into account :—

- (I) A sum of 7s. 6d. per week of the total amount paid to the applicant and the members of the family residing with him by the British Government or Commonwealth of Australia by way of pension in respect of disabilities caused by war; and

- (2) The sum of 7s. 6d. of the total weekly amount paid to members of the family residing with the applicant or with whom he resides by the Commonwealth of Australia by way of an invalid and/or old-age pension; and 20 per cent. of the total gross earnings of the applicant and all members of the family residing with him.

Men in receipt of sustenance may be called upon to work in return for sustenance by the municipality where sustenance is received, and the hours to be worked are computed by dividing the sustenance to which recipients are entitled under the Regulations by the hourly wage operating in the municipality in which the work is performed. This means that if a recipient of sustenance were entitled to 40s. 6d. per week and the wage was 12s. 6d. per day of eight hours or 1s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. an hour, the number of hours to be worked would be computed by dividing 40s. 6d. by 1s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The work that may be undertaken as work in return for sustenance by municipalities is any which municipal councils are empowered or required to do or perform under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1928 or of any other Act, except private street construction and any other works in respect of which property-owners are required to contribute a portion or the whole of the cost. In connexion with the utilization of work in return for sustenance no male person ordinarily employed by the municipality must be dismissed or otherwise cease to be employed. Where work in return for sustenance is performed the payment of sustenance is made in cash. In other cases sustenance is granted to persons entitled thereto in such a manner as the Minister may, from time to time, direct.

Ninety-one per cent. (91%) of the persons in receipt of sustenance in the State are working in return therefor, and the weekly rates are as set out in column 5 of the schedule above. The balance of 9 per cent. comprises employable unemployed males in receipt of sustenance for whom the municipality is unable to provide work, and temporarily unemployable men for whom assistance has been authorized by the Minister. In such cases the weekly rate of sustenance is in accordance with columns 4 and 3 respectively of the schedule.

In addition to relief in the form of sustenance, assistance is afforded by employment on unemployment relief works undertaken by governmental departments and various public authorities, including charitable institutions, municipal councils, sewerage authorities and waterworks trusts.

Under existing unemployment relief work conditions, men upon whose earnings other persons are ordinarily dependent for support, receive full-time employment each week for eleven weeks if they are unable to return to their homes each night, and for eight weeks, if they are able to return to their homes each night. Men upon whose earnings no other persons are ordinarily dependent for support receive 24 hours work each week, for twelve weeks if camped out, and for eight weeks if they are able to return to their homes each night.

The great bulk of these workers are employed on works of classes which are ordinarily governed by either the Australian Workers' Union Award No. 7 of 1937, or the Australian Railways Union Award, and receive the rates of pay prescribed by those Awards, including margins and allowances where applicable.

(iii) *Queensland*.—The Government's Full-Time Employment Scheme, which replaced the Intermittent Relief Scheme, in operation since 1931, has been developed along approved lines. The principle adopted of selecting the labour required from those persons in receipt of ration relief assistance according to priority was terminated as from 30th April, 1940, as its purposes had been served by the calling up of 13,690 men during its period of operation, thereby exhausting the list of eligibles. Consequently the engagement of all labour through State Labour Exchanges is being conducted in accordance with the general rules governing the engagement of labour at Labour Exchanges irrespective of priority of relief.

As from 23rd September, 1938, ration relief assistance was issued in the form of half cash and half rations instead of wholly in rations as previously. The classification of the family units and amounts allotted thereto are shown in the following table :—

Family Units and Weekly Ration Scale.

Family Unit.					Weekly Ration Scale, as from 31st May, 1937.	
					s.	d.
Single man	..	..	..	..	8	0
Man and wife	..	..	..	..	17	0
Man, wife and 1 child	..	..	..	..	20	9
" " 2 children	..	..	..	..	24	6
" " 3 " "	..	..	..	..	28	3
" " 4 " "	..	..	..	..	32	0
" " 5 " "	..	..	..	..	35	9
" " 6 " "	..	..	..	..	39	6
" " 7 " "	..	..	..	..	43	3
" " 8 " "	..	..	..	..	47	0
" " 9 " "	..	..	..	..	50	9
" " 10 " "	..	..	..	..	54	6
" " 11 " "	..	..	..	..	58	3
Widows and single girls without dependants	..	..	..	..	8	0
" " " " with 1 dependant	..	..	..	..	15	6
For each additional dependant	..	..	..	..	3	9

(a) Or widower plus one additional dependant to those scheduled.

The rates above are increased in the northern and western parts of the State by the addition of parities.

Sons over 18 years of age are also entitled to relief provided the father's weekly earnings do not exceed certain amounts commencing at the basic wage and advancing by 4s. 6d. in respect of each child in the family under 18 years of age above three in number.

As from 6th December, 1940, ration scales increased to 4s. 6d. per week for children under 14 years of age of relief recipients living at home and dependant upon the relief recipient for support. This provides for milk being supplied to these children by special ration ticket to the extent of 1s. per week.

(iv) *South Australia*.—The issue of unemployment relief is controlled by the Unemployment Relief Council.

The cost of relief for the various family units is as follows :—

Family Unit.					Per Week.	
					s.	d.
Single person	..	..	..	..	7	6
Man and wife	..	..	..	..	17	0

For each child in the home, the following is the cost of relief, namely :—

				Per Week,	
				s.	d.
13 years and over	..	..	..	7	6
Over 9 years and under 13	..	..	..	6	3
" 6 " " " 9	..	..	..	5	6
" 3 " " " 6	..	..	..	5	0
" 1 " " " 3	..	..	..	4	3

Separate relief orders are issued for groceries, bread, meat, vegetables, fresh milk, and firewood. The grocery order is issued for a definite value, and the recipient selects goods from the list thereon, to the value stated. The fruit and vegetable order is also a "value" one, but the bread, meat, and milk orders are issued for definite quantities. In September, 1938, the ration scale was revised by a special Medical Committee.

Contract prices are arranged for all items on the ration list, and the unit costs indicated consequently vary from time to time, although the amount of relief available to the recipient remains constant. These rates are calculated on the contract prices operating in the metropolitan area. In country areas the cost varies considerably in the different towns, but the recipient receives the same amount of relief as in the metropolitan area. The quantitative orders would not affect the recipient, and a necessary percentage is added to those orders which are issued on the value basis. The value of the relief to the recipient is, of course, greater than that shown, as the contract system enhances the value of the order.

Married men are granted 1 cwt. of firewood weekly, and during the winter months this allowance is increased to 1½ cwt. weekly. Infants not naturally fed are supplied with fresh milk, sugar, fruit, and cereals, and if such food is considered unsuitable by a medical officer special foods are substituted as may be recommended. To assist those recipients of relief threatened with eviction to meet rental charges, one day's work per week is provided at the basic or award rate.

In a number of centres, both in the metropolitan area and in the country, recipients of relief render services in return for the relief issued to them, plus a subsidy from the local governing authority. The subsidy, which is a percentage of the cost of relief issued to each recipient, varies from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. in the different districts. The subsidy is always paid in cash, but in some instances the ration costs are not paid in cash, as the recipients desire to have the advantage of the contract system. Under this scheme the full amount earned is paid by the local authorities, who are reimbursed by the Unemployment Relief Council to the extent of the relief costs involved. Tools and materials are found by the local authorities, and the length of time to be worked is calculated at the basic or award rate applying to the particular class of work being undertaken.

There are no established intermittent relief works operating in this State, but various works are put in hand from time to time for the purpose of providing some work for the unemployed. Apart from such works and the Relief Subsidy Scheme there are no general intermittent relief works.

(v) *Western Australia*.—Relief is granted to unemployed married men at the rate of 7s. per member of the family per week, with a maximum amount of 49s. per week, of which 2s. in cash is paid in respect of each 7s. Children over fourteen years of age are not eligible. Single men are given part-time employment at Arbitration rates enabling them to earn at the rate of 35s. 2d. per week. If incapable of work, meal tickets are provided and the men are billeted in approved lodging houses.

From 1st August, 1933, employment on relief work has been on a rotary basis. The following is the scale of relief work now provided, and the resultant average earnings per week applicable to the family unit shown, together with the rates of sustenance per week to those not engaged on relief works.

Family Unit.(a)	Employment on Relief Works.(b)			Sustenance.
	Periods of Rotation.	Periods of full-time work* included in "A."	Average earnings per week over period "A" of earnings during period "B."(c)	Rate per week (applicable only to those not engaged on Relief Works).(c)
	"A."	"B."		
	weeks.	weeks.	£ s. d.	s. d.
Married couple .. ..	8	6	3 6 11	14 0
" " with 1 child	9	7	3 9 5	21 0
" " " 2 children	8	7	3 18 1	28 0
" " " 3 " "	full-time	full-time	4 9 3	35 0
" " " 4 " "	"	"	4 9 3	42 0
" " " 5 or more children	"	"	4 9 3	49 0

\* At arbitration rates.

† Average earnings shown fluctuate proportionately in accordance with any alteration in the basic wage.

(a) Single men are provided each week with work equivalent to the value of 35s. 2d.

(b) After completion of "B" no further work or sustenance is available until the elapse of the balance of the corresponding rotation period shown in "A".

(c) Figures for the south-west Land Division and exclude camp allowances, holiday pay, and margins over the basic wage.

(vi) *Tasmania*.—The following scale of sustenance rates has been in operation since 26th August, 1940 :—

Family Unit.	Hobart and Suburbs.			Launceston and Suburbs.(a)		
	Sustenance.	Sustenance Work.		Sustenance.	Sustenance Work.	
	Dole per week.	Hours of Work.	Payment for Work.	Dole per week.	Hours of Work.	Payment for Work.
	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.		s. d.
Single person .. ..	10 9	8½	15 6	10 9	8½	15 3
Married couple .. ..	20 6	16	29 0	20 3	16	28 9
" " with 1 child..	24 3	19	34 6	24 0	19	34 0
" " " 2 children	28 0	22	40 0	27 9	22	39 6
" " " 3 "	31 9	25	45 6	31 6	24½	44 6
" " " 4 "	33 0	26½	47 9	32 9	25½	46 3
" " " 5 "	36 6	28½	52 3	36 0	28½	51 6
" " " 6 "	40 0	31½	57 9	39 6	31½	56 6
" " " 7 "	43 6	34½	62 3	43 0	34	61 0
" " " 8 "	47 0	35½	64 0	46 6	35	62 9

(a) Rates for country towns are regulated by a special schedule, and are lower than the rates shown in this table.

NOTE.—Whether work for sustenance is performed or not payment is made in cash.

Arrangements are made with Municipal Councils whereby men in receipt of sustenance perform a certain number of hours' work each week. The Council is reimbursed the wages paid by submitting a claim to the Social Services Department. The work provided by such Councils is in addition to that which would ordinarily be undertaken. The Councils are not to reduce the annual votes for works because of the extra items, and are not to displace any permanent employees. The men are to be employed at the basic rate of pay, for a sufficient number of hours each week to cover the

amount of sustenance authorized by the Department. The Councils mainly provide supervision, tools and equipment; also material required for the work.

(vii) *Australian Capital Territory*.—The original practice of granting rations was changed to a scheme of payment of the equivalent cash to that previously received in food value. The scale of sustenance per week, and the earnings under the scheme in operation from 30th June, 1939, are shown below :—

Family Unit.	Scale of Sustenance per week.		Maximum Earnings Allowed.*
	s.	d.	s. d.
Single person .. .. .	7	4	34 0
Man and wife .. .. .	12	4	80 0
Man, wife and one child ..	17	11	80 0
" " 2 or 3 children ..	22	6	104 0
" " 4 or 5 " ..	26	6	126 0
" " 6 children ..	27	7	149 0
" " 7 " ..	30	5	195 0
" " 8 " ..	31	6	218 0

\* For period of four weeks.

The earnings are taken over a period of four weeks, and no relief is granted when they exceed the amounts mentioned during such period taken as a whole.

The scheme for the alleviation of distress from unemployment in the Territory was on 1st October, 1934, based on an average allotment of relief work of one week in two for married men, and one week in four for single men. This allotment fluctuated somewhat until in March, 1936, the men (married and single) were placed on full time. This favourable condition obtained until the end of June, but rationing of work became necessary again early in July, 1936, pending the organization and development of the 1936-37 works programme. In 1937-38 both married and single men were employed full-time from November, 1937, to June, 1938, and whilst this continued for married men, the single men reverted to one week's work in four from 1st September until 30th November, when they were restored to full-time for the month of December. From 1st January, 1939, to 31st March, 1939, single men were employed for one week's work in two, after which they resumed full-time employment, which continued practically to 30th June, 1940. The allotment is made irrespective of the sizes of families, the differences in domestic conditions as regards individuals being remedied by the scheme of graduated income standards and ration scale. In the case of families of four and five children, the maximum allotment is increased to three weeks in five. Additional funds occasionally make it possible to increase the ratios mentioned above.

(viii) *Northern Territory*.—The position regarding the provision of work for unemployment relief in the Northern Territory is as follows :—

Married men with not less than three years residential qualification—three days per week.

Married men who have resided in the Territory for twelve months, but less than three years—one day per week.

Single men with not less than twelve months' residential qualification—one day per week.

The basic wage is paid, which is at present 18s. 9d. per day.

A sustenance allowance of 8s. 6d. per week is allowed in Darwin. This rate varies in country districts with the price of bread.



Ration orders are issued to sick persons, destitute women and children and to the aged and infirm, each case being dealt with on its merits. Concessions are granted in regard to such matters as hospital treatment, burials, fares out of the Territory, repatriation of aged Chinese, &c.

(ix) *Summary for States and Territories.*—The following is a summary of the foregoing rates of unemployment relief in all States and Territories for the "family units" shown:—

### UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF.

Summary of Rates per week Operative in the various States and Territories.

#### I. Sustenance Rates (for work).\*

(EXCLUSIVE OF CHILD ENDOWMENT.)

State or Territory.	Single Man.	Married Man.	Married Man and—		
			One Child.	Two Children.	Three Children.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
New South Wales(a) ..	22 0	44 0	44 0	44 0	44 0
Victoria ..	17 6(b)	30 6	35 6(c)	40 6(c)	45 6(c)
Queensland(d) ..	..	..	..	..	..
South Australia(e) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Western Australia(f) ..	35 2	66 11	69 5	78 1	89 3(g)
Tasmania ..	15 6	29 0	34 6	40 0	45 6
Northern Territory(h) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory(j)	..	..	..	..	..

\* Worked on various rotational bases.

† Similarly graduated scales (up to fixed maxima) for larger families.

(a) Basic rates only. Award rates paid.

(b) Single employable male 21 or over, member of family in receipt of sustenance—10s.

(c) 5s. for each unemployed male dependant under 21 years, or each unemployed female dependant irrespective of age residing with applicant provided value of sustenance does not exceed 77s. 6d. per week.

(d) The Intermittent Relief Scheme was totally abolished at 30th June, 1939, and is being replaced by a new development full-time employment scheme (see p. 112).

(e) See note (c) Table II.

(f) South-west Division, and exclusive of camp allowances, holiday pay, and margins over basic wage.

(g) Full-time work provided.

(h) Rationed work at award rates, but no cases at present.

(j) Full-time work at award rates provided since 1st April, 1939.

#### II. Sustenance Rates (without work).

(EXCLUSIVE OF CHILD ENDOWMENT.)

State or Territory.	Single Man.	Married Man.	Married Man and—		
			One Child.	Two Children.	Three* Children.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
New South Wales ..	10 0	17 0	22 0	23 0	26 0
Victoria ..	11 0(a)	18 6	22 6(b)	26 6(b)	30 6(b)
Queensland ..	8 0	17 0	21 6	25 3	29 0
South Australia (c) ..	7 6	17 0	22 10(d)	28 8(d)	34 6(d)
Western Australia ..	(e)	14 0	21 0	28 0	35 0
Tasmania ..	10 9	20 6	24 3	28 0	31 9
Northern Territory ..	8 6(f)	17 0(f)	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory	7 4	12 4	17 11	22 6	22 6

\* Similarly graduated scales (up to fixed maxima) for larger families.

(a) Unemployables residing with others than parents—6s. 6d.

(b) Rates represent 4s. for each unemployed male dependant under 21, and for each female dependant residing with applicant, provided the weekly value of sustenance does not exceed 50s. 6d. Unemployables for whom sustenance specially approved receive 9s. 9d. per week and for each unemployed dependant irrespective of age, 4s. 0d. per week.

(c) In a number of centres recipients work out the cost of rations (at Arbitration rates) to which is added a cash subsidy ranging according to the district from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. of the value of such cost. The ration value may be either in cash or kind. Recipients threatened with eviction are given one day's work per week to assist in meeting rental charges.

(d) Rates for children vary from 4s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. according to age, but average has been taken at 5s. 5d. No fixed maximum for family.

(e) Provided with meal tickets and billeted in approved lodging house if incapable of work.

(f) Ration orders are issued to sick persons, destitute women and children, and to the aged and infirm, each case being dealt with on its merits.

3. **Unemployment Relief Funds.**—(i) *Commonwealth.*—The Commonwealth Government made available to the States in 1929–30 from the Federal Aid Roads Account the sum of £1,000,000, appropriated by Act No. 55 of 1930, for the relief of unemployment; and further supplemented this amount by £750,000 in 1930–31 and £304,000 in 1931–32. The Loan (Unemployment Relief Works) Act, No. 9 of 1932, authorized the raising of money to the amount of £1,800,000 for assisting the States in the relief of unemployment. The money was free of interest, and the amounts allotted to the States were as follows:—New South Wales, £600,000; Victoria, £475,000; Queensland, £310,000; South Australia, £195,000; Western Australia, £145,000; Tasmania, £75,000. The payments were conditional on the expenditure being on approved reproductive works, and on the States providing equivalent amounts. The required sum was borrowed by the Commonwealth from the Commonwealth Bank, and the States borrowed £1,200,000 from the same source, making a total of £3,000,000 available for the purpose indicated. The amount of £600,000 granted to New South Wales was distributed by the Commonwealth and was not subject to the £1 for £1 condition. In December, 1932, the Government allocated a further £100,000 to the States for expenditure on Commonwealth works, in order to mitigate the condition of the workless at the Christmas season, and (from Loans) in 1933–34, £300,000. For the year 1934–35, the expenditure from revenue was £161,000. During 1934–35 the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act, No. 66 of 1934, was passed appropriating moneys for assisting the States in the re-employment of men, by means of public works and assistance to the metalliferous mining industry. This Act was amended by Act No. 2 of 1935 to include assistance in connexion with forestry works.

In addition to assistance to the States, the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act 1934–35 appropriated the following amounts for direct expenditure by the Commonwealth:—

	£
On Public Works .. .. .	400,000
In assistance to the metalliferous mining industry .. .. .	50,000
For Forestry works .. .. .	9,000

The amounts appropriated for the States by the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act 1934–35 were—

State.	For Public Works.	For Metalliferous Mining.	For Forestry.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales .. .. .	350,000	42,500	50,000	442,500
Victoria .. .. .	225,000	50,000	100,000	375,000
Queensland .. .. .	125,000	70,000	30,000	225,000
South Australia .. .. .	125,000	33,500	17,000	175,500
Western Australia .. .. .	125,000	62,000	100,000	287,000
Tasmania .. .. .	50,000	25,750	25,000	100,750
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>283,750</b>	<b>322,000</b>	<b>1,605,750</b>

The grants to the States for mining were subject to £1 for £1 contribution in respect of part thereof, and the grants for forestry were subject to each State (except South Australia and Tasmania) spending an amount equivalent to the sum received from the Commonwealth.

By Act No. 13 of 1936 the amounts provided for assistance to the States in respect of mining and forestry were supplemented by further grants from Revenue to be made available during 1936-37 and 1937-38 (upon similar conditions) as follows :—

State.	For Metalliferous Mining.		For Forestry.	
	Financial Year 1936-37.	Financial Year 1937-38.	Financial Year 1936-37.	Financial Year 1937-38.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales .. ..	19,600	13,600	25,000	12,500
Victoria .. ..	27,000	18,700	50,000	25,000
Queensland .. ..	35,600	24,900	15,000	7,500
South Australia .. ..	12,800	..	8,500	4,250
Western Australia .. ..	34,600	9,800	50,000	25,000
Tasmania .. ..	10,400	3,000	12,500	6,250
	140,000	70,000	161,000	80,500

Under Act No. 12 of 1936 a sum of £100,000 yearly was granted from Revenue for the ten years commencing 1st July, 1935, for payment to the States in the following proportions :—

	£
New South Wales .. ..	39,400
Victoria .. ..	27,400
Queensland .. ..	14,450
South Australia .. ..	8,700
Western Australia .. ..	6,650
Tasmania .. ..	3,400
	<u>100,000</u>

This measure provided that the grant would be devoted to the payment of interest and sinking fund on approved loans raised by public authorities (preferably outside metropolitan areas) and the assistance was conditional upon grants of equal value for the same purpose by State Governments. The primary object of the grant was the relief of unemployment in country districts.

Under Act No. 71 of 1936 a sum of £150,000 was appropriated from Revenue for payment to the States by way of grant to be expended in the provision of assistance to persons out of employment. The object of this grant was to provide relief to persons out of work at the 1936 Christmas season.

The amount of £150,000 was distributed as follows :—

	£
New South Wales .. ..	59,200
Victoria .. ..	40,900
Queensland .. ..	21,700
South Australia .. ..	13,000
Western Australia .. ..	10,000
Tasmania .. ..	5,200
	<u>150,000</u>

Under Act No. 46 of 1937, a sum of £100,000 was appropriated for direct expenditure by the Commonwealth in the States and Territories on public works and services. The purpose of this expenditure was to provide to as great an extent as possible additional employment for those who are unemployed at or about Christmas time.

In November, 1939, the Commonwealth made available £2,000,000 from the Loan Appropriation for defence works with the primary object of relieving unemployment throughout the States. The works selected were those affording the greatest scope for the employment of unskilled labour, and the allocation, having regard to the population and the unemployment existing in the various States, was as follows:—

	£
New South Wales .. .. .	850,000
Victoria .. .. .	470,000
Queensland .. .. .	280,000
South Australia .. .. .	175,000
Western Australia .. .. .	125,000
Tasmania .. .. .	60,000
For future allocation .. .. .	40,000
	<hr/> 2,000,000 <hr/>

(ii) *New South Wales*.—The receipts and expenditure in connexion with the relief of unemployment in New South Wales are not available apart from totals which include other forms of charitable relief and social services, but the following amounts are shown in the various Treasurer's Statements as having been spent on food relief in the years 1930-31 to 1938-39:—

Year.	£	Year.	£
1930-31 ..	1,837,886	1935-36 ..	980,760
1931-32 ..	5,070,732	1936-37 ..	1,114,950
1932-33 ..	3,511,978	1937-38 ..	1,263,901
1933-34 ..	1,467,953	1938-39(a) ..	1,419,836
1934-35 ..	1,076,670		

(a) Other direct expenditure from revenue for relief of unemployment in 1938-39, included relief works £405,880; work subsidies £67,937; training of unemployed youths £197,545; clothing, medical service, etc., for unemployed £146,226; administration £241,617.

The Unemployment Relief Fund, instituted in New South Wales in July, 1930, was abolished as from 1st July, 1932, and the proceeds of the Wages and Special Income Taxes were paid into Consolidated Revenue Fund until 1st July, 1939. Then a new Unemployment Relief Fund was created to receive the proceeds of the Wages and Special Income Taxes collected between 1st July and 30th September, 1939, and arrears collected thereafter, together with two-thirds, or since 1st November, 1940, five-sevenths of the proceeds of the combined Unemployment Relief Tax and Social Services Tax.

The receipts and expenditure of the Unemployment Relief Fund in 1940-41 are shown below—

*Receipts—*

Unemployment Relief Tax, £6,316,236; Miscellaneous Receipts, £25,600; Total, £6,341,836.

Payments—		£
Works, Grants, &c., for relief of unemployment	..	2,200,585
Food Relief	..	1,370,700
Clothing, Medical and Dental Services for Unemployed	..	119,164
Christmas Grant to Food Relief Recipients and Relief Workers	..	26,413
Training of apprentices and unskilled workers	..	78,568
Subsidies to Municipal and Shire Councils and other bodies to finance works	..	141,632
Remission of Capital Debt Charges <i>re</i> Unemployment Relief Works	..	604,569
Recoup to Consolidated Revenue Fund <i>re</i> loans for relief of unemployment—		
Interest	..	939,837
Sinking Fund	..	98,884
Direct and other Administrative Charges	..	195,972
Miscellaneous	..	33,230
Total	..	5,809,554

(iii) *Victoria*.—The following statement shows the receipts and expenditure from the Unemployment Relief Fund for the years 1931-32 to 1940-41 :—

Year.		Receipts. £		Expenditure. £
1931-32	..	1,622,401	..	1,625,458
1932-33	..	1,731,721	..	1,569,356
1933-34	..	1,618,396	..	1,766,873
1934-35	..	1,695,707	..	1,898,132
1935-36	..	1,984,754	..	1,754,165
1936-37	..	1,966,435	..	1,760,022
1937-38	..	1,963,640	..	1,962,097
1938-39	..	1,913,898	..	2,054,641
1939-40	..	2,041,130	..	1,885,223
1940-41	..	1,637,956	..	1,235,151

(iv) *Queensland*.—The receipts and expenditure in connexion with the Unemployment Relief Fund for the years 1931-32 to 1937-38 and for the first six months of 1938-39 were as follows :—

Year.		Receipts. £		Expenditure. £
1931-32	..	1,089,645	..	1,200,674
1932-33	..	1,806,010	..	1,771,111
1933-34	..	1,967,942	..	1,903,888
1934-35	..	2,425,917	..	1,674,393
1935-36	..	2,494,637	..	2,653,182
1936-37	..	2,637,172	..	3,059,964
1937-38	..	2,806,961	..	2,664,314
1938-39 (first six months)	..	1,118,603	..	1,109,347

The State Development Tax Act came into operation as from 1st January, 1939, and the Unemployment Relief Fund was closed on 31st December, 1938. Receipts from the State Development Tax which are paid into Consolidated Revenue are shown below together with expenditure :—

Year.	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1938-39 (last six months)	1,332,751 ..	1,123,448
1939-40 ..	2,255,197 ..	2,030,847
1940-41 ..	2,369,883 ..	2,038,324

Quite apart from the foregoing, the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Fund, which is maintained by the joint contributions from employers, workers, and Government, provides moneys for the sustenance of those unemployed workers who were contributors to the Fund. In 1940-41 the expenditure from the Fund was £504,158, of which £471,708 was absorbed in sustenance payments.

(v) *South Australia*.—There is no special unemployment taxation in this State. The moneys required for the relief of unemployment are provided from General Revenue. In addition the Minister may issue licences to charitable organizations to raise moneys for the relief of unemployment in their districts. The total expenditure on Unemployment Relief (excluding Children's Welfare and Public Relief) during 1931-32 was £852,059; for 1932-33, £622,331; 1933-34, £534,418; 1934-35, £483,436; 1935-36, £413,035; 1936-37, £375,127; 1937-38, £319,067; 1938-39, £304,082; 1939-40, £336,453; and 1940-41, £127,062.

(vi) *Western Australia*.—Special unemployment taxation is not levied in this State. Amounts required for sustenance and general relief of destitution are provided by the Government from Consolidated Revenue. The expenditure on unemployment relief from 1931-32 onwards was as follows :—

Year.	From Revenue.		From Loan.
	Sustenance Relief.	Sustenance Work.	Reproductive Relief Works.
	£	£	£
1931-32 .. .. .	643 996	..	1,202,547
1932-33 .. .. .	196,123	149,833	1,183,864
1933-34 .. .. .	182,953	49,239	1,884,897
1934-35 .. .. .	56,301	16,195	2,077,326
1935-36 .. .. .	35,275	14,595	2,011,888
1936-37 .. .. .	36,323	14,821	1,772,893
1937-38 .. .. .	37,945	14,021	1,168,389
1938-39 .. .. .	33,478	13,381	1,484,116
1939-40 .. .. .	39,684	13,896	1,282,259
1940-41 .. .. .	19,990	6,225	978,299



(vii) *Tasmania*.—The amounts expended from Revenue during the last nine years on unemployment relief including relief work and sustenance for the unemployed are as follows :—

Year.					Expenditure.
					£
1931-32	..	..	..	..	70,000
1932-33	..	..	..	..	69,892
1933-34	..	..	..	..	168,350
1934-35	..	..	..	..	203,867
1935-36	..	..	..	..	193,645
1936-37	..	..	..	..	178,573
1937-38	..	..	..	..	174,672
1938-39	..	..	..	..	150,089
1939-40	..	..	..	..	137,402
1940-41	..	..	..	..	80,726

The amount of £80,726 for 1940-41 includes £19,825 for relief work in lieu, and £5,622 for sustenance.

(viii) *Australian Capital Territory*.—There is no special taxation levied for the relief of unemployment in the Australian Capital Territory. The works upon which the unemployed are dependent have, in recent years, been largely financed from the annual appropriation for Defence, New Works, Buildings, &c., and to a lesser degree from the votes for Maintenance Services. In addition, various additional amounts have been made available from time to time from special appropriations to supplement existing votes with a view to increasing the ratio of employment. The amounts expended as purely unemployment relief measures in each year cannot therefore be stated, as they form a part of the general works programme within the Territory. Special provision is made, however, for the alleviation of distress, and the expenditure under this heading during the past six financial years was as follows :—1934-35, £2,405; 1935-36, £1,869; 1936-37, £848; 1937-38, £1,464; 1938-39, £1,123; 1939-40, £1,653; and 1940-41, £1,717. This expenditure includes rations granted in certain cases, work in lieu of rations for itinerants, payments to the Canberra Relief Society for subsequent disbursement, the supply of firewood for unemployment camps and railway fares for destitute persons.

(ix) *Northern Territory*.—Special funds are provided for unemployment relief in the estimates of expenditure for the Territory. The expenditure in 1934-35 was £4,455; in 1935-36, £4,739; in 1936-37, £5,000; in 1937-38, £8,825; in 1938-39, £4,658; in 1939-40, £2,780; and in 1940-41, £2,857.

(x) *Loan Expenditure*.—In addition to expenditure from ordinary revenue, a large amount was also expended in the various States from Loan funds, but owing to the complication of moneys being advanced by the Commonwealth to the States, expenditure by the Commonwealth in the States, and the difficulty of stating the extent to which the ordinary Loan programmes of the States relieved unemployment, it is almost impossible to publish satisfactory figures for the ten years, 1930-31 to 1939-40. The most that can be claimed for such expenditure in connexion with the relief of unemployment is that had it been curtailed on the grounds of financial stringency, unemployment would undoubtedly have been greater. The Gross Loan Expenditure on Works, &c., by the States amounted to approximately £17,533,000 in 1940-41.

4. **Number in Receipt of Sustenance.**—The number of persons in receipt of unemployment relief in its various forms cannot be accurately determined, but the following statement shows the number (exclusive of dependants) in receipt of or working for sustenance or working "part-time" on relief works in the various States at 30th June, 1941:—

New South Wales	..	..	..	23,869(a)
Victoria	..	..	..	4,327
Queensland	..	..	..	10,113
South Australia	..	..	..	893
Western Australia	..	..	..	2,890(b)
Tasmania	..	..	..	119
Northern Territory	..	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory	..	..	..	128
Total	..	..	..	42,339

(a) Includes a large number of persons in receipt of food relief who are not available for employment owing to old-age, sickness or, in the case of women, domestic responsibilities. (b) Includes 165 men "standing down" and 1,257 working full-time, the latter comprising a certain number of foremen and other "key" men and all married men with three or more children.

Workers engaged "part-time" on "relief" works, mostly on a "rotational" system, are either directly employed by the various governments or through local government authorities. In addition to these, however, large numbers are employed on a "whole-time" basis on works which from their nature can hardly be regarded as purely for the relief of unemployment. As the cost is made a charge against the ordinary votes for works and services and loan appropriations, it has not been possible to secure satisfactory information in regard to the number engaged from a "relief" point of view.

5. **Youth Employment.**—A plan of co-operation of the Commonwealth and States to deal with the problem of unemployed youths was initiated by the Commonwealth at a conference of representatives of the Governments concerned held in Melbourne on 5th February, 1937. The immediate concern of the Conference was the large number of young men who through no fault of their own found themselves unemployed as the result mainly of failure to obtain a vocational training during the depression years. The Conference further considered that the many thousands of young men of the same ages who, for similar reasons, had been forced to accept "dead-end" jobs should also be regarded as coming within the ambit of the problem of youth employment arising more directly out of the depression.

It was recognized at this and subsequent Conferences that the Commonwealth itself had no machinery for dealing directly with the actual task of training and placing these young men in suitable employment openings, but that the Commonwealth could facilitate the work of the States in coping with the problem by financial assistance.

The Commonwealth agreed to make the sum of £200,000 available for distribution among the States for 1937-38, to be allocated proportionally to population, with a slight variation allowed for the degree of unemployment among youths in the various States, and to recommend, if necessary, the provision of a similar amount for the year 1938-39. It was left to each State to determine what amount from its own resources it would add to the Commonwealth grant to cover the working costs of its own scheme. It was further agreed that each State should develop a scheme suited to its own conditions and which would form an integral part of whatever policy it was following in providing technical and other training for youths and in

dealing with unemployment as a whole. In other words, while the general plan to be followed would represent a joint and simultaneous attack by the Commonwealth and States upon the problem of the aftermath of depression for youths and young men directly affected, the actual operation of the plan was to be left to the States and to be as flexible as differing conditions in the States really demanded. The schemes submitted by the States were all approved by the Commonwealth. While differing in detail, the principal features of the schemes in operation cover :—

- (a) The supplementing of wages pending complete efficiency of the trainees.
- (b) Training for technical trades and commercial pursuits.
- (c) Training for agricultural, forestry and mining pursuits.
- (d) Additions to buildings and purchase of plant and equipment where necessary.

Owing to the amount of work involved in making the requisite surveys and completing arrangements for training, the schemes did not come into full operation as early as had been anticipated, and the first £200,000 voted by the Commonwealth Parliament under the States Grants (Youth Employment) Act, No. 37 of 1937, was not fully expended in 1937-38. The amount of £200,000 was distributed as follows :—

	£
New South Wales .. .. .	79,000
Victoria .. .. .	55,000
Queensland .. .. .	25,000
South Australia .. .. .	19,000
Western Australia .. .. .	14,000
Tasmania .. .. .	8,000
	<hr/>
	200,000

The second Commonwealth contribution of £200,000 provided for by the States Grants (Youth Employment) Act, No. 10 of 1939 was allocated amongst the States in the same proportions as the first grant and was a necessary part of the total fund estimated to be required to bring the schemes to completion.

On 19th and 20th July, 1939, a Conference of Ministers and officials from the Commonwealth and States was held in Melbourne to consider the wider problem of unemployment and "dead-end" employment among youths and young men. The Conference was convened by the Commonwealth Government at the instance of the New South Wales Government, following deliberations in the Commonwealth Parliament and the several State Parliaments upon the existing difficulties and future employment prospects for this section of the community. Among other matters, the Conference recommended the establishment in each State of a research organization, with at least one research officer appointed by the State on a full time basis, to attack the problem of employment and unemployment; that the Commonwealth appoint qualified research investigators primarily responsible to the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics to act in close co-operation with employment research organizations in the States; and that the Conference should constitute itself a continuing body to be convened by the Commonwealth. Subsequently these research bodies and research officers were set up in the States and the Research Section of the

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics constituted the research body for the Commonwealth. On 4th to 6th December, 1939, a Conference of representatives of the research bodies was held in Canberra and a programme of uniform research activities adopted, attention being directed to both the immediate and after-effects of the war upon vocational training and employment opportunities for youths and young men. This joint research by all States and the Commonwealth is now proceeding. It is being co-ordinated by the Department of Labour and National Service.

Since early in 1940, the training schemes have largely been merged in the special organization established by the Commonwealth Government to provide skilled workers for the Armed Forces and Munitions work. By this time most of the funds made available had been expended and activity during 1940 was largely confined to completing the training of those youths who were already undergoing instruction. The following figures show the total expenditure by the Commonwealth and State Governments up to the middle or end of 1940.

#### Expenditure on Training Scheme.

State.	Date.	Commonwealth Grant.	Expenditure from Commonwealth Grant.	Expenditure of State Funds.
		£	£	£
New South Wales ..	30.6.40	158,000	157,494	370,098
Victoria ..	31.12.40	110,000	95,693	95,693
Queensland ..	30.6.40	50,000	50,000	23,496
South Australia ..	31.12.40	38,000	38,000	36,478
Western Australia ..	30.6.40	28,000	25,976	(a)
Tasmania ..	30.6.40	16,000	14,407	25,478

(a) Not available.

The complete results of the scheme are not yet available but the following details provide an indication of the position in some of the States :—

#### Number of Youths Trained at 31st December, 1940.

	Started Training.	Completed Training.	Partly Trained.	In Training.
New South Wales ..	3,319	3,277	..	..
Victoria ..	998	416	347 (a)	235
Queensland ..	808	578	..	23
South Australia ..	524	438	..	..

(a) Includes 161 enlisted in Defence Forces and 124 resigned to enter employment.

It seems probable that about 5,000 youths received the full benefit of the training offered. The subsequent experience of most of the trainees has emphasized the moral and material benefits of training and the contribution of the scheme, not only to the individuals concerned, but to the supply of skilled labour available for war industries.

### § 5. State Labour Exchanges.

**1. General.**—There is considerable diversity in the scope of the several State Labour Exchanges, as well as in the methods adopted for registration of applicants for employment. Details were given in Labour Report No. 30, page 133, concerning the organization and administration of these Exchanges, in the several States.

2. **Registered Unemployed at State Labour Exchanges.**—The work of the State Labour Exchanges greatly increased in 1930 owing to the abnormal amount of unemployment. The peak number of applications for work was, however, received in the March quarter of 1931. Skilled and semi-skilled workers, who in the past had not availed themselves of the services of the Exchanges, registered for relief work as there was little prospect of employment in their usual occupations. Special legislation in 1930 for the relief of unemployment provided in most cases that registration at the Exchanges was essential before relief work or sustenance could be obtained, and resulted in increased registrations for employment.

The following table shows the number of persons registered for employment at the various State Labour Exchanges in the various States and Australia for the years 1939-40 and 1940-41. The figures in this table, however, should not be used to compare total unemployment as between one State and another. There is reason to believe that the proportion of registered to total unemployed differs considerably from State to State. The proportion of the total unemployed who register is known to be much higher in Queensland than in other States, since registration is a condition precedent to the claiming of benefit under the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Scheme which covers all employment to which State awards apply, certain employment not covered by State awards, and certain employment covered by Commonwealth awards.

Persons Registered for Employment at State Labour Exchanges.

Period.	New South Wales. (a)	Victoria. (b)	Queensland. (c)	South Australia. (d)	Western Australia.		Tasmania. (e)	Australia.
					Labour Exchange (e)	Department of Employment. (f)		
1939-40 ..	48,915	19,857	27,582	6,919	1,096	4,398	1,231	109,998
1940-41 ..	27,631	8,084	22,557	3,980	662	2,835	554	66,303
1940—								
July ..	38,876	12,940	20,603	6,521	839	4,066	737	84,582
August ..	35,681	11,685	19,057	6,797	660	3,811	718	78,409
September ..	34,273	10,638	18,178	5,028	724	3,519	570	72,930
October ..	30,792	9,320	18,126	4,360	724	3,074	604	67,000
November ..	29,469	8,618	22,026	4,413	642	2,904	584	68,656
December ..	28,741	7,950	28,384	3,707	473	2,905	570	72,730
1941—								
January ..	28,583	7,660	32,509	4,603	651	2,711	470	77,187
February ..	25,987	6,253	29,295	2,978	653	2,464	448	68,078
March ..	22,866	6,045	25,844	2,719	597	2,385	293	60,749
April ..	20,408	5,986	21,780	2,670	556	2,340	501	54,241
May ..	18,697	5,560	18,344	2,220	693	2,047	540	48,101
June ..	17,193	4,350	16,544	1,745	732	1,797	607	42,968

(a) Adult males. Includes those engaged on part-time Relief Work. (b) Males. Includes those working for Sustenance, and those temporarily employed on relief works. (c) Persons. (d) Males. Includes those engaged on part-time Relief Work. (e) Adult males, females, and a certain proportion of the State's registered unemployed youth. Re-registrations and new registrations during the month. These figures relate to persons registered for placement in private employment only. (f) Males. These figures relate to rationed and part-time relief workers engaged through the Department of Employment and unemployed men in receipt of sustenance.

## § 6. Industrial Accidents.

1. **Source of Information.**—The following tables have been compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, and from Boiler, Lift, and Scaffolding Inspectors in the several States. In the Annual Reports issued by the State Departments, special sections are published relating to accidents in industrial



undertakings. Reference to these Reports will afford more detailed information. The appreciative thanks of the Bureau are extended to the officials of the various State Departments, including the officials of the Mining Departments, who very kindly supplied the summarized returns shown hereunder.

**2. Number of Accidents Reported.**—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State in the years 1936 to 1940 :—

Industrial Accidents, 1936 to 1940.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A. (b)	Tas.	Total.
No. of Fatal Accidents	1936 .. 46	22	17	7	49	7	148
	1937 .. 64	38	24	4	51	8	189
	1938 .. 54	26	17	12	34	3	146
	1939 .. 53	26	20	14	43	5	161
	1940 .. 61	17	12	16	30	2	138
No. of Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days	1936 .. a 7,802	739	546	180	2,035	107	11,400
	1937 .. „ 8,150	1,027	665	156	1,752	136	11,886
	1938 .. „ 9,704	976	746	190	1,017	128	13,661
	1939 .. „ 9,704	976	684	178	1,662	106	13,400
	1940 .. „ 10,675	1,395	687	291	1,740	159	14,947

(a) See remarks below.

(b) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Compared with 1939 the numbers of deaths from industrial accidents in 1940 increased in New South Wales and South Australia but decreased in all the other States. The number of non-fatal accidents increased in all States.

The large number of accidents recorded in New South Wales during recent years was due to an amendment of the Act which provides that all accidents which prevent workers from returning to work within seven days must be reported. Figures for this State are, therefore, not exactly comparable with those for other States. Further, the definition of a non-fatal accident is not on uniform lines in all States.

**3. Accidents in Industrial Groups.**—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups in Australia in 1940.

Industrial Accidents: Number in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1940.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incapacitating for over 14 days. (b)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	5	615
II. Engineering, etc. ..	(a) 11	(a) 4,874
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	4	1,303
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc. ..	1	783
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	..	521
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	9	3,492
VII. Building and Scaffolding ..	2	10
VIII. Mining ..	93	2,945
IX. Lifts ..	3	10
X. Miscellaneous ..	10	394
Total ..	138	14,947

(a) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Inspector of Factories in New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. In previous years these accidents were included in Group VIII. Mining.

(b) See remarks above.



The largest number of fatal accidents occurred in the mining industry, representing 67 per cent. The largest number of non-fatal accidents occurred in engineering, etc. (33 per cent.). It should be pointed out, however, that the figures for 1938 and later years are not directly comparable with those for previous years as accidents in ore dressing, smelting works, etc., in New South Wales previously included in Group VIII. (Mining) are now included in the engineering group.

Two fatal accidents occurred in connexion with building and scaffolding and three deaths resulted from lift accidents. Thirty fatal, and 11,588 non-fatal accidents were reported in the manufacturing industries, 4,885 of the total occurring in the engineering and metal-working group.

**4. Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, except as regards accidents occurring in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following tables give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments, and, except for New South Wales, in regard to accidents in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works reported to Inspectors of Factories in each State in 1940.

**Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes, 1940.(a)**  
**A.—Fatal Accidents.**

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
<b>METALLIFEROUS MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	1	..	..	..	3	1	5
" " Falls of Ground ..	8	..	2	..	9	..	19
" " Falling down shafts, etc. ..	3	1	2	2	4	..	12
Other Accidents .. ..	2	..	1	..	3	..	6
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion .. ..	..	..	2	1	2	..	5
Other Accidents .. ..	2	..	..	..	2	1	5
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc. .. ..	..	..	1	3	1	..	5
4. Quarries, Brick and Clay Pits, etc. ..	..	6	..	4	..	..	10
<b>COAL MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth .. ..	9	..	1	..	2	..	12
Other Accidents .. ..	8	..	..	..	1	..	9
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents .. ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
Total .. ..	36	7	11	10	27	2	93

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the State Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works and quarries are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident.

**B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.**

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
<b>METALLIFEROUS MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	6	..	I	..	II	..	18
"       "       Falls of Ground ..	4	3	II	I	74	7	100
"       "       Falling down ..	..	2	2	..	30	3	37
"       "       shafts, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	788	68	1,560
Other Accidents .. ..	650	..	54	..	..	..	..
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in ..	..	..	36	15	38	I	92
motion .. ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents .. ..	161	I	8	80	167	29	446
3. Accidents In Batteries, Ore-dressing, ..	..	..	47	119	25	16	207
Smelting and other Metallurgical ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Works, etc.(b) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Quarries, Brick and Clay Pits, etc. ..	..	II	..	16	24	..	51
<b>COAL MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions ..	..	..	I	..	..	..	I
(Fire Damp, etc.) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	10	..	..	..	..	..	10
(Dynamite, etc.) .. ..	24	2	39	..	39	..	104
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth ..	17	4	73	..	174	2	270
Other Accidents .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
motion .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents .. ..	9	I	12	..	25	..	47
Total .. ..	883	24	284	231	1,397	126	2,945

(a) Complete reports not available.

(b) Inclusive of accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories in States other than New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works.

Sixty-four fatal mining accidents occurred below ground in Australia during the year, as compared with 29 above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1940 numbered 57, as against 26 in coalmines and 10 in quarries and brick and clay pits. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 2,100 and above ground 794. Fifty-one non-fatal accidents occurred in quarries and brick and clay pits.

**CHAPTER V.—ASSOCIATIONS.****§ 1. Labour Organizations.**

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since 1936. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in regard to the supply of information.

The figures published in this chapter cover the years 1936 to 1940. Particulars for the years 1912 to 1935 will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

2. Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1936 to 1940.  
—The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and branches with the number of members at the end of the years 1936 to 1940 :—

## Trade Unions : Branches and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern Territory.	A.C.T.	Total.	Aust.
NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.										
1936..	184	147	111	114	132	76	5	15	784	2356
1937..	184	147	110	113	132	76	6	15	783	2358
1938..	194	147	111	114	136	78	6	15	801	2366
1939..	200	149	114	117	141	79	4	15	819	2380
1940..	196	147	115	118	140	77	4	15	812	2381

NUMBER OF BRANCHES.										
1936..	559	396	314	177	211	71	..	1	1,729	2,157
1937..	571	396	309	171	198	70	..	1	1,716	2,141
1938..	573	400	314	179	202	58	..	1	1,727	2,162
1939..	598	398	312	178	204	69	..	1	1,760	2,199
1940..	601	387	309	174	209	71	..	1	1,752	2,183

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.										
1936..	315,517	201,616	158,953	59,900	60,762	15,839	992	1,230	814,809	814,809
1937..	333,379	209,794	162,212	63,770	65,053	19,208	912	1,455	856,283	856,283
1938..	346,837	215,021	169,560	62,404	67,932	21,051	806	1,538	885,158	885,158
1939..	358,391	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	1,685	915,470	915,470
1940..	364,202	232,288	189,732	73,503	68,271	24,556	1,405	1,905	955,862	955,862

## PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(c)

1936..	1.9	1.2	7.3	1.4	4.2	8.8	16.6	16.3	3.0	3.0
1937..	5.5	4.0	2.0	6.1	6.6	17.5	8.8	15.4	4.8	4.8
1938..	3.7	2.4	4.3	2.1	4.2	8.8	11.6	5.7	3.3	3.3
1939..	3.3	0.8	6.5	8.7	10.1	4.8	15.6	9.6	3.4	3.4
1940..	1.7	7.2	5.0	9.2	0.6	1.3	84.6	13.0	4.4	4.4

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication. The figures represent the number of distinct organizations and interstate groups of organizations. They do not represent the total number of organizations which are practically independent and self-governing (see following remarks). (b) Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of interstate unions, but also head State branches of interstate unions. (c) On preceding year. (d) Decrease.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international union. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations, namely :— (i) the local independent ; (ii) the State ; (iii) the interstate ; and (iv) the Australasian or international.

In the table just given, under the heading " Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted once only, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In the total number of separate unions in each State (see last column but one), it is obvious that there will be duplication in the case of interstate and similar unions, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it is represented by a Branch. The figures in the last column, therefore, have been obtained by making due allowance for this duplication.

3. **Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1936 to 1940.**—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1936 to 1940. In previous Reports it was pointed out that the number of unions classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), increased considerably during the period 1918 to 1920, and a correspondingly large increase occurred in the membership of the group. During recent years many associations of employees of public and semi-public bodies have been organized, and such unions are now included in the tabulations. Public Service, municipal, banking and insurance associations, which were not previously recognized, are now registered under the provision of the Commonwealth and State Industrial Arbitration Acts, and are therefore classified as industrial bodies. The inclusion of these organizations is responsible, to a great extent, for the increase in Group XIV.

**Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.**

Industrial Groups.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.					
<b>Manufacturing—</b>	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (5)
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	63 (21)	63 (22)	63 (22)	64 (22)	63 (23)
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	69 (33)	70 (35)	70 (34)	72 (35)	72 (35)
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	24 (11)	24 (11)	26 (12)	26 (12)	26 (12)
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	14 (8)	14 (7)	14 (8)	14 (8)	14 (8)
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	73 (35)	73 (36)	73 (36)	71 (37)	70 (37)
VII. Building ..	49 (27)	49 (27)	49 (28)	48 (28)	49 (28)
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	16 (13)	15 (12)	15 (12)	16 (13)	19 (13)
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	50 (29)	50 (28)	50 (27)	51 (29)	50 (29)
X. Other Land Transport ..	11 (4)	12 (5)	13 (6)	13 (6)	13 (6)
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	55 (21)	55 (21)	55 (20)	60 (21)	58 (21)
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	11 (7)	9 (8)	9 (6)	9 (5)	9 (5)
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	20 (15)	20 (15)	20 (16)	19 (18)	18 (17)
<b>XIV. Miscellaneous</b>					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical ..	32 (19)	32 (16)	32 (16)	33 (20)	33 (20)
(ii) Public Service ..	148 (48)	148 (47)	148 (50)	147 (50)	142 (49)
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	8 (8)	8 (8)	8 (8)	15 (8)	15 (8)
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring ..	16 (11)	16 (11)	16 (12)	20 (11)	20 (11)
(v) Other Miscellaneous ..	108 (42)	108 (45)	123 (49)	124 (53)	124 (54)
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>794 (356)</b>	<b>783 (358)</b>	<b>801 (366)</b>	<b>810 (380)</b>	<b>812 (381)</b>

(a) Allowance for interstate duplication.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

<b>Manufacturing—</b>					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	25,305	27,465	27,831	27,090	29,520
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	79,047	83,993	91,228	99,731	112,230
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	72,120	76,702	75,753	80,328	77,229
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	62,269	66,323	66,427	68,847	73,489
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	19,425	20,461	21,661	22,303	22,997
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	46,832	49,323	48,410	52,074	62,185
VII. Building ..	56,727	59,484	47,953	45,651	53,998
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	40,184	44,912	43,429	48,812	49,921
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	94,944	97,435	104,523	105,938	101,940
X. Other Land Transport ..	10,287	15,829	18,969	19,488	18,315
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	27,346	27,611	28,780	28,760	29,173
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	31,860	34,624	38,424	40,276	44,524
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	16,091	15,933	12,835	13,177	16,805
<b>XIV. Miscellaneous—</b>					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical ..	35,315	36,044	37,639	39,043	42,439
(ii) Public Service ..	83,484	84,716	86,797	89,848	92,688
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	32,178	33,055	34,140	36,290	35,119
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring ..	39,603	40,948	45,126	46,552	47,673
(v) Other Miscellaneous ..	41,723	41,425	52,233	50,392	45,617
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>814,809</b>	<b>856,283</b>	<b>885,158</b>	<b>915,470</b>	<b>955,862</b>

4. **Trade Unions—Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners.**—(i) *States, 1940.* The estimated number of male and female wage and salary earners (including

unemployed) have been obtained by increasing the number of such persons enumerated at the 1933 Census in ratio to the annual increases in separate age groups for males and females. Further, allowance has been made for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage and salary earners, and (b) youths and girls who would normally have been wage and salary earners but who, on account of the economic depression, having never been employed, were not classed as wage and salary earners at the 1933 Census.

The following table shows separately for males and females and for each State (a) the number of members of trade unions; (b) the estimated number of wage and salary earners of each sex 20 years of age and over in all professions, trades, and occupations; and (c) the percentage of the former (a) on the latter (b) at the end of the year 1940. The estimated number of wage and salary earners includes all persons 20 years of age and over in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a large number of adults who are not eligible for membership of any trade union (such as certain persons employed in professional occupations) as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. Moreover, the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and age 20 years is taken as approximating to the age of admission to membership. A line has been added to show the estimated numbers of "junior" workers under 20 years of age:—

**Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, 1940.**

Particulars.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Nthn. T'tory.	Aus- tralia.
MALES.								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ..	621,400	409,800	220,300	125,600	104,200	44,900	3,600	1,529,800
No. of Members of Unions ..	312,494	190,188	157,822	64,868	59,143	20,709	1,348	806,572
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	50.3	46.4	71.6	51.6	56.8	46.1	37.4	52.7
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	110,400	72,100	41,300	24,100	17,600	9,700	300	275,500
FEMALES.								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ..	162,800	137,800	54,000	34,800	24,500	11,800	300	426,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	53,613	42,100	31,910	8,635	9,128	3,847	57	149,290
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	32.9	30.6	59.1	24.8	37.3	32.6	19.0	35.0
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	76,900	51,600	26,300	16,700	11,300	5,600	100	188,500
PERSONS.								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ..	784,200	547,600	274,300	160,400	128,700	56,700	3,900	1,955,800
No. of Members of Unions ..	366,107	232,288	189,732	73,503	68,271	24,556	1,405	955,862
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	46.7	42.4	69.2	45.8	53.0	43.3	36.0	48.9
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	187,300	123,700	67,600	40,800	28,900	15,300	400	464,000

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory.



(ii) *Australia*.—Similar particulars for Australia for the five years 1936 to 1940 are given in the next table. The figures for years prior to 1938 previously published in the Labour Report have been revised.

**Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia.**

Particulars.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
<b>MALES.</b>					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	1,451,600	1,470,200	1,488,200	1,507,500	1,529,800
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	685,795	720,587	748,749	778,336	806,572
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	47.2	49.0	50.3	51.6	52.7
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	265,400	268,600	273,200	275,600	275,500
<b>FEMALES.</b>					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	397,600	404,700	410,900	417,600	426,000
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	129,014	135,696	136,409	137,134	149,290
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	32.4	33.5	33.2	32.8	35.0
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	176,400	179,900	183,900	187,200	188,500
<b>PERSONS.</b>					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	1,849,200	1,874,900	1,899,100	1,925,100	1,955,800
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	814,809	856,283	885,158	915,470	955,862
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	44.1	45.7	46.6	47.6	48.9
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	441,800	448,500	457,100	462,800	464,000

**5. Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1936 to 1940.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1936 to 1940 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only :—

**Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.**

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
<b>NUMBER OF UNIONS.</b>											
1936 ..	26	11	41	40	51	27	29	42	38	51	356
1937 ..	27	10	45	40	48	29	29	39	38	53	358
1938 ..	27	10	45	43	45	31	29	44	39	53	366
1939 ..	27	14	41	43	52	28	30	52	41	52	380
1940 ..	28	11	45	45	49	35	29	49	38	52	381
<b>MEMBERSHIP.</b>											
1936 ..	490,617	71,449	131,248	56,805	36,645	10,957	6,942	5,890	2,737	1,519	814,809
1937 ..	526,817	70,456	140,285	56,603	34,209	11,345	6,911	5,354	2,684	1,619	856,283
1938 ..	543,442	68,881	149,337	60,978	32,258	12,953	6,722	6,375	2,626	1,536	885,158
1939 ..	568,624	87,077	134,204	59,283	36,776	10,578	7,483	7,225	2,655	1,565	915,470
1940 ..	590,282	76,725	156,697	63,803	36,957	13,213	7,046	6,892	2,560	1,687	955,862
<b>PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.</b>											
1936 ..	60.2	8.8	16.1	7.0	4.5	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0
1937 ..	61.6	8.2	16.4	6.6	4.0	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.2	100.0
1938 ..	61.4	7.7	16.9	6.9	3.6	1.5	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0
1939 ..	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1940 ..	61.7	8.0	16.4	6.7	3.9	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0



In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given for the years 1936 to 1940. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that though membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 121 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, namely, from 360 to 297.

**6. Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Interstate or Federated Trade Unions : Number and Membership.

PARTICULARS.	UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
	2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.(a)	
Number of Unions	1936 ..	19	8	21	19	46
	1937 ..	18	12	18	19	46
	1938 ..	16	12	19	23	43
	1939 ..	19	11	20	24	42
	1940 ..	18	13	19	25	42
Number of Members	1936 ..	28,233	13,624	123,008	171,517	324,910
	1937 ..	29,863	17,802	131,468	172,799	366,172
	1938 ..	27,713	20,279	140,214	190,700	352,405
	1939 ..	30,888	33,319	120,664	207,369	361,881
	1940 ..	28,730	46,757	138,840	210,020	379,085

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 117 in 1940, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 84 per cent. during the same period.

**7. Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are,

as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The table hereunder gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith in each State at the end of the years 1936 to 1940.

Central Labour Organizations : Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Total.
No. of Councils	1936 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
	1937 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
	1938 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
	1939 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
	1940 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	1936 ..	91	167	84	54	213	59	..	11	679
	1937 ..	91	167	85	53	213	59	..	10	678
	1938 ..	100	176	78	47	210	59	..	9	679
	1939 ..	103	179	79	50	210	59	..	9	680
	1940 ..	105	177	81	50	209	57	..	9	688

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions, the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of Australia, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress, held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:—  
(a) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the Craft to an Industrial basis by the establishment of one Union in each industry; (b) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (c) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (d) educational propaganda among Unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the Trade Union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons, from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference.

**8. Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.**—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.\* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

At the end of 1940 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 37, with a membership of approximately 34,000. At the same date the number of unions registered was 153, with a membership of approximately 810,000 representing 85 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

## § 2. International Comparisons.

**1. The International Labour Conferences.**—In Chapter XVII. of Labour Report No. 14, information was given with regard to the clauses in the Peace Treaty referring to labour conditions. Provision was made in the Treaty for the holding of International Labour Conferences, and the institution of the International Labour Office. The Report referred to also contains information regarding the activities of the Labour Office, together with a brief reference to the five Annual Labour Conferences which had then been held. Particulars of the proceedings at subsequent Conferences were given in later reports. The twenty-fifth session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 8th to 28th June, 1939, and the Agenda and decisions appear in Labour Report No. 30, 1939.

A special Conference of this Organization was held at the Columbia University, New York, from 27th October to 5th November, 1941. On 6th November at the invitation of President Roosevelt the Conference held its final sitting at the White House.

Thirty-four Member States were represented and 197 persons in all attended the Conference.

This Conference dealt mainly with matters of post-war importance such as—feeding of peoples in need; reconstruction of devastated countries; restoration of economic activity; reopening of trade routes; resettlement of families; maintenance of employment; raising standards of living; the implementing of the principles of the Atlantic Charter; collaboration between public authorities, employers and workers; establishment of a World Textile Office; regulation of economic and social conditions of Mercantile Marine; fixation of minimum rates of wages; agrarian reform in countries with extensive territory in relation to number of inhabitants.

In all of these matters the utilization of the machinery and experience of the International Labour Organization was strongly urged, and the maintenance of the closest co-operation with this Organization.

The Australian delegation comprised the following:—Government Delegate—A. S. Watt, Esq.; Employers' Delegate—Alured Kelly, Esq.; Workers' Delegate—A. E. Monk, Esq.; Miss Muriel Heagney attended as unofficial adviser to the Australian delegation.

\* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service.

# APPENDIX

## Section I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1940.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1940.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>		<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98	5.98
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	5.00	5.00	4.89
" self-raising ..	"	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.70	7.85	7.88	7.85	7.85	8.00	8.10	8.15	8.20	7.87
Tea ..	lb.	30.75	31.65	31.35	30.65	28.85	28.75	26.75	26.75	27.75	29.85	29.95	30.95	29.50
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.38	3.38	3.43	3.40
Sago ..	"	3.50	3.58	3.60	3.55	3.60	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.80	3.85	3.90	3.68
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	10.05	10.05	10.10	10.15	10.20	10.20	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.45	10.21
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.35	3.15	2.93	2.53	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.63	2.80	2.66
Raisins, seeded ..	"	10.63	10.63	10.63	10.63	10.55	10.70	10.70	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.90	10.70
Currants ..	"	9.05	9.15	9.30	9.20	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.45	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.45	9.32
Apricots, dried ..	"	15.61	16.63	16.67	16.67	16.67	16.78	16.78	16.78	17.17	16.79	17.00	17.39	16.75
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.30	10.30	10.60	11.00	11.00	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	10.91
Pears, canned ..	"	11.35	11.35	11.70	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	11.91
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	15.05	15.50	15.60	15.80	15.90	16.20	16.25	16.15	16.25	17.25	17.60	18.15	16.31
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	10.63	10.81	11.56	18.63	11.75	12.81	13.13	12.88	14.56	14.75	15.94	16.55	13.67
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.46	1.96	2.14	2.07	2.14	2.29	2.36	2.29	2.36	2.93	2.93	3.50	2.40
Soap ..	"	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.46	6.52	6.52	6.52	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.58	6.48
Kerosene ..	quart	4.50	4.53	4.57	4.65	4.70	4.70	4.81	4.83	4.89	4.99	5.07	5.10	4.78
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05
Cheese, mild ..	"	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.75	14.85	15.30	15.30	14.74
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	18.05	21.00	21.50	25.05	27.25	23.90	19.00	16.95	16.85	16.90	17.90	18.00	20.20
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	17.35	17.35	17.25	17.25	17.35	17.35	17.35	17.35	17.45	17.45	17.45	17.65	17.39
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.05	8.90	8.85	8.90	9.08
" fresh ..	1 quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	10.35	10.50	10.85	10.85	10.95	10.85	10.85	11.10	11.30	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.13
" rib ..	"	7.80	7.90	8.10	8.10	8.30	8.20	8.15	8.50	8.50	9.15	9.00	9.05	8.38
" steak, rump ..	"	15.40	15.60	15.90	16.10	16.30	16.20	16.20	16.30	16.50	17.50	17.40	17.70	16.42
" " chuck ..	"	7.15	7.30	7.50	7.50	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.95	7.90	8.40	8.20	8.20	7.82
" sausages ..	"	5.95	6.10	6.25	6.25	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.42
Beef (corned) silver side ..	"	8.75	8.80	8.95	9.00	8.85	8.95	8.70	8.90	8.90	9.75	9.70	9.90	9.09
" " brisket ..	"	6.35	6.50	6.65	6.65	6.60	6.60	6.45	6.65	6.80	7.20	7.20	7.45	6.77
<b>Mutton, leg ..</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>7.35</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>7.55</b>	<b>7.60</b>	<b>7.65</b>	<b>7.55</b>	<b>7.50</b>	<b>7.45</b>	<b>7.45</b>	<b>7.70</b>	<b>7.55</b>	<b>7.55</b>	<b>7.52</b>
" " forequarter ..	"	4.08	4.08	4.40	4.50	4.55	4.60	4.45	4.60	4.53	4.65	4.63	4.58	4.47
" " loin ..	"	8.50	8.45	8.95	8.80	9.15	9.00	8.80	9.00	8.90	8.90	8.85	9.00	8.86
" " chops, loin ..	"	9.25	9.25	9.45	9.55	9.75	9.65	9.60	9.40	9.40	9.60	9.45	9.40	9.48
" " leg ..	"	8.20	8.20	8.50	8.45	8.75	8.70	8.60	8.55	8.45	8.60	8.40	8.35	8.48
<b>Pork, leg ..</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>13.80</b>	<b>13.40</b>	<b>13.30</b>	<b>13.50</b>	<b>13.30</b>	<b>13.30</b>	<b>13.20</b>	<b>13.20</b>	<b>13.30</b>	<b>13.30</b>	<b>13.40</b>	<b>13.90</b>	<b>13.41</b>
" " loin ..	"	13.70	13.70	13.60	13.70	13.90	13.90	13.90	14.00	14.10	13.80	13.70	14.00	13.83
" " chops ..	"	13.60	13.70	13.40	13.40	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.70	13.75	13.65	13.65	13.85	13.63

## SECTION I.—continued.

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1940.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1940.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>														
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.55	5.53	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.53	5.55	5.55	5.48
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.20	4.25	4.18
" self-raising ..	"	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.90	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.61
Tea ..	lb.	31.45	32.30	32.25	31.70	29.95	30.10	28.60	28.40	29.10	31.10	31.00	32.05	30.67
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.95	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.53	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.49
Sago ..	"	3.38	3.60	3.53	3.58	3.63	3.68	3.73	3.78	3.78	3.88	3.93	4.03	3.71
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	8.75	8.95	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.35	9.30	9.30	9.40	9.40	9.21
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.15	7.15	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.15	7.15	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.16
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.20	3.00	2.93	2.75	2.73	2.68	2.70	2.68	2.80	2.80	2.93	3.00	2.85
Raisins, seeded ..	"	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.60	10.70	10.75	11.00	10.95	10.85	10.70	10.70	10.71
Currants ..	"	8.94	8.89	9.00	9.06	9.17	9.06	9.06	9.13	9.13	9.19	9.13	9.19	9.08
Apricots, dried ..	"	15.90	16.81	16.83	16.75	16.80	16.90	16.90	16.95	17.10	16.75	16.88	17.45	16.84
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	9.60	9.65	9.65	10.05	10.25	10.30	10.25	10.30	10.25	10.30	10.25	10.30	10.10
Pears, canned ..	"	10.40	10.45	10.35	10.90	10.95	11.10	11.10	11.20	11.20	11.15	11.15	11.15	10.93
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	13.95	14.45	14.60	14.75	15.00	15.28	15.28	15.28	15.28	16.17	16.39	16.44	15.24
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.85	8.55	10.39	12.70	12.24	12.81	12.44	11.80	14.83	14.80	16.24	15.87	12.63
Onions, brown ..	lb.	1.17	1.00	1.06	1.39	1.67	1.83	1.94	1.83	1.67	1.50	2.06	2.97	1.68
Soap ..	"	6.93	6.93	6.93	6.98	6.98	7.07	7.07	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.00
Kerosene ..	quart	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.15	5.14	5.20	5.20	5.25	5.31	5.35	5.54	5.47	5.24
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50
Cheese, mild ..	"	13.31	13.31	13.44	13.31	13.31	13.31	13.31	13.31	13.31	13.31	13.44	13.31	13.34
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	16.80	20.30	21.50	24.80	27.95	20.70	20.90	17.15	15.80	14.00	17.60	17.10	20.05
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	20.30	20.50	20.50	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.50	20.30	20.35	20.45	20.45	20.41
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.50	9.60	9.51
" fresh ..	1 quart	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	10.45	10.65	11.05	11.15	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.35	11.65	11.60	11.55	11.31
" rib ..	"	8.55	9.00	9.15	9.10	9.40	9.30	9.35	9.35	9.50	9.45	9.30	9.35	9.24
" steak, rump ..	"	15.60	15.80	16.00	16.30	16.30	16.50	16.60	16.60	17.00	17.30	17.30	17.40	16.56
" chuck ..	"	7.00	7.15	7.55	7.65	7.85	8.00	7.90	7.85	8.00	8.05	7.95	7.85	7.73
" sausages ..	"	5.56	5.89	6.17	6.28	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.35	6.35	6.30
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	9.00	9.25	9.45	9.50	9.65	9.65	9.60	9.65	9.70	10.05	9.95	9.80	9.60
" " " brisket ..	"	6.85	7.25	7.30	7.30	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.50	7.85	7.75	7.60	7.43
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.80	8.25	8.30	8.35	8.50	8.40	8.40	8.25	8.25	8.10	7.65	7.70	8.17
" forequarter ..	"	4.65	4.90	4.95	5.10	5.20	5.20	5.10	5.05	5.05	4.75	4.65	4.65	4.98
" loin ..	"	7.35	7.45	7.55	7.70	7.90	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.90	7.85	7.30	7.20	7.63
" chops, loin ..	"	8.40	8.55	8.70	8.60	8.75	8.70	8.70	8.90	8.70	8.65	8.80	8.85	8.69
" leg ..	"	8.80	8.95	9.05	9.05	9.30	9.30	9.15	9.25	9.20	9.30	9.10	9.25	9.14
Pork, leg ..	"	13.40	13.20	13.10	12.90	13.10	12.90	12.90	12.80	12.90	12.80	12.45	12.45	12.91
" loin ..	"	13.50	13.40	13.30	13.10	13.40	13.30	13.30	13.40	13.30	13.20	13.00	12.95	13.26
" chops ..	"	13.95	13.90	14.00	14.00	14.10	13.90	13.80	13.90	14.00	14.10	14.00	13.70	13.95



## SECTION I.—continued.

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1940.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1940.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05
" self-raising ..	"	8.36	8.27	8.23	8.23	8.18	8.18	8.18	8.18	8.18	8.18	8.18	8.18	8.21
Tea ..	lb.	30.82	31.73	31.45	30.73	28.86	28.86	26.41	26.32	27.32	29.86	29.77	30.68	29.40
Sugar ..	"	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.34	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.36
Sago ..	"	3.36	3.41	3.50	3.04	3.86	3.95	3.95	3.91	3.91	3.91	3.95	4.05	3.79
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	8.32	8.36	8.59	8.63	8.73	8.76	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.76	8.65
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73	6.73
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.23	3.16	3.02	3.00	3.00	2.84	2.89	2.84	2.84	2.89	3.02	3.16	2.99
Raisins, seeded ..	"	10.91	10.91	10.95	10.95	11.14	11.27	11.32	11.32	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.20
Currants ..	"	9.59	9.59	9.64	9.68	9.73	10.00	10.00	9.95	10.00	10.05	10.09	10.14	9.87
Apricots, dried ..	"	16.35	16.55	16.59	16.55	16.95	16.77	16.77	16.95	16.95	16.95	17.18	17.64	16.85
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.59	10.68	10.86	11.00	11.36	11.36	11.36	11.50	11.55	11.59	11.64	11.68	11.27
Pears, canned ..	"	11.05	11.23	11.41	11.45	11.86	11.95	12.05	12.09	12.09	12.09	12.23	12.23	11.81
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	15.72	15.50	15.95	16.25	16.25	16.75	16.45	17.15	17.10	17.45	17.82	18.18	16.72
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	11.05	11.59	11.82	15.14	13.09	11.86	11.77	14.77	13.18	15.45	14.55	17.15	13.62
Onions, brown ..	lb.	1.34	1.50	1.55	1.65	1.99	2.15	2.19	2.27	2.11	2.34	2.71	3.82	2.14
Soap ..	"	6.18	6.15	6.18	6.18	6.21	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.22
Kerosene ..	quart	4.31	4.30	4.38	4.36	4.41	4.41	4.48	4.50	4.50	4.57	4.71	4.74	4.47
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	13.27	13.27	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.36	13.35
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	16.55	21.73	21.91	24.23	25.77	23.23	16.73	16.64	15.55	15.55	15.91	16.64	19.20
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	15.18	15.27	15.18	15.18	15.18	15.45	15.45	15.36	15.45	15.45	15.45	15.41	15.34
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.27	9.23	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.32	9.32	9.32	9.32	9.29
" fresh ..	quart	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.25	6.25	6.04
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.45	9.45	9.50	10.00	10.56	10.40	11.15	9.83
" rib ..	"	6.60	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.55	7.30	7.67	7.50	8.05	6.90
" steak, rump ..	"	12.05	12.00	12.05	11.90	12.00	12.10	12.10	12.25	13.25	13.83	13.80	15.20	12.71
" chuck ..	"	6.20	6.35	6.20	6.15	6.15	6.10	6.20	6.30	7.10	7.61	7.40	8.10	6.05
" sausages ..	"	6.10	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.65	6.94	6.90	7.00	6.42
Beef, (corned) silver-side ..	"	7.95	7.95	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.90	7.90	7.95	8.50	8.94	8.80	9.70	8.30
" brisket ..	"	5.90	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.95	5.95	5.95	6.00	6.50	6.89	6.85	7.55	6.30
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.90	7.90	7.85	7.80	7.80	7.75	7.75	7.85	7.85	8.11	8.15	8.55	7.94
" forequarter ..	"	5.30	5.20	5.25	5.25	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.25	5.50	5.60	6.00	5.35
" loin ..	"	7.70	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.70	7.70	7.72	7.65	8.05	7.70
" chops, loin ..	"	7.95	7.90	7.80	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.89	7.95	8.45	7.87
" leg ..	"	8.25	8.20	8.10	8.10	8.05	8.05	7.95	7.90	7.95	8.17	8.20	8.60	8.13
Pork, leg ..	"	11.55	11.50	11.60	11.55	11.60	11.60	11.65	11.80	11.90	11.89	11.85	12.10	11.72
" loin ..	"	11.65	11.65	11.75	11.75	11.70	11.75	11.70	11.80	11.85	12.00	11.90	12.15	11.80
" chops ..	"	11.70	11.70	11.80	11.80	11.80	11.80	11.80	11.85	11.90	12.06	11.95	12.30	11.87



## SECTION I.—continued.

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1940.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1940.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.53
" self-raising ..	"	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.90	7.10	7.15	7.20	7.20	7.25	7.30	6.99
Tea ..	lb.	31.60	32.35	32.15	31.65	30.10	29.90	27.90	27.90	28.80	30.90	30.90	31.70	30.49
Sugar ..	"	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.96
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago ..	"	3.08	3.25	3.30	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.80	3.47
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	8.45	8.55	8.55	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.65	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.75	8.75	8.63
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.20	3.03	2.88	2.88	2.85	2.88	2.83	2.80	2.83	2.83	2.88	2.90	2.90
Raisins, seeded ..	"	9.10	9.25	9.40	9.33	9.39	9.65	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.80	9.80	9.70	9.55
Currants ..	"	8.20	8.25	8.30	8.35	8.45	8.60	8.60	8.65	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.52
Apricots, dried ..	"	14.89	15.19	15.65	15.70	15.90	15.95	16.05	16.15	16.40	16.40	16.30	16.30	15.91
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.00	10.05	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.13
Pears, canned ..	"	9.85	10.00	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.20	10.20	10.20	10.07
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	13.40	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.55	14.55	14.75	14.70	15.00	15.15	15.70	16.15	14.65
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.33	6.42	7.00	10.81	10.86	12.43	12.14	12.20	13.21	14.14	17.83	12.80	11.52
Onions, brown ..	lb.	4.88	4.88	4.88	2.67	2.11	1.36	1.50	1.50	1.36	1.20	1.25	1.25	2.42
Soap ..	"	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.70	6.97	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.84
Kerosene ..	quart	4.45	4.46	4.46	4.54	4.54	4.54	4.55	4.63	4.65	4.74	4.88	4.91	4.71
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05
Cheese, mild ..	"	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.26
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	12.65	14.95	16.95	21.60	23.15	23.35	15.90	15.20	13.25	12.85	13.40	13.45	16.39
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	17.65	18.40	18.40	18.35	18.30	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.15	18.15	18.15	18.20
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	8.90	8.95	9.11
" fresh ..	quart	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.05	9.40	9.40	9.50	10.25	10.10	10.00	10.00	10.20	10.15	10.10	10.10	9.87
" rib ..	"	7.35	7.70	7.60	7.65	8.70	8.55	8.25	8.20	8.20	8.10	8.05	8.20	8.05
" steak, rump ..	"	13.00	13.30	13.30	13.50	14.40	14.10	13.90	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.80	13.80	13.76
" chuck ..	"	7.70	8.10	8.30	8.40	9.20	9.00	8.60	9.00	8.90	8.80	8.80	8.80	8.63
" sausages ..	"	5.20	5.50	5.50	5.60	6.10	6.20	6.10	6.10	6.00	5.90	5.80	5.80	5.82
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	9.35	9.55	9.65	9.60	10.00	10.20	9.75	10.05	10.10	10.15	10.10	10.10	9.89
" " brisket ..	"	6.85	7.15	7.35	7.35	7.70	7.75	7.45	7.65	7.65	7.55	7.55	7.55	7.46
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.85	8.20	8.10	8.20	8.75	8.70	8.20	8.15	7.80	7.65	7.55	7.50	8.06
" forequarter ..	"	4.30	4.60	4.55	4.65	5.10	5.05	4.70	4.75	4.60	4.30	4.00	3.90	4.54
" loin ..	"	7.05	7.60	7.60	7.60	8.10	8.00	7.65	7.75	7.30	7.15	6.95	6.90	7.47
" chops, loin ..	"	8.00	8.50	8.60	8.50	9.00	8.90	8.80	8.70	8.20	7.80	7.80	7.80	8.42
" leg ..	"	9.00	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.70	9.60	9.30	9.20	8.75	8.75	8.45	8.70	9.11
Pork, leg ..	"	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.70	11.35	11.30	11.20	11.00	10.60	10.55	10.70	11.25
" loin ..	"	12.20	12.40	12.35	12.35	12.20	11.90	11.80	11.80	11.65	11.45	11.65	11.60	11.95
" chops ..	"	12.50	12.60	12.60	12.70	12.50	12.40	12.30	12.30	11.90	11.60	11.70	11.60	12.23

## SECTION I.—continued.

Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1940.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1940.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
" self-raising ..	"	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.30	7.25	7.35	7.40	7.55	7.55	7.70	7.70	7.80	7.45
Tea ..	lb.	31.90	32.80	32.80	31.80	30.50	30.30	28.30	28.20	29.20	31.10	31.10	31.90	30.83
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.50	3.50	3.55	3.55	3.60	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.61
Sago ..	"	3.30	3.45	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.75	3.75	3.85	3.00	4.00	4.05	4.05	3.75
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	9.05	9.15	9.20	9.25	9.35	9.40	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.55	9.70	9.70	9.40
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.38
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.58	3.50	3.45	3.45	3.48	3.38	3.38	3.48	3.50	3.50	3.58	3.70	3.50
Raisins, seeded ..	"	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.60	10.55	10.55	10.60	10.60	10.65	10.75	10.59	10.59
Currants ..	"	8.95	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.05	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.35	9.45	9.55	9.16
Apricots, dried ..	"	14.90	15.00	15.00	15.30	15.40	15.70	15.80	15.80	16.10	16.20	16.30	16.30	15.65
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	11.10	11.20	11.55	11.65	11.90	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.95	12.00	12.00	12.05	11.77
Pears, canned ..	"	11.75	11.75	12.20	12.40	12.60	12.70	12.70	12.70	12.70	12.80	12.90	12.90	12.51
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	14.55	14.85	15.20	15.45	15.45	15.50	15.67	16.11	16.33	16.33	16.83	17.50	15.82
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	6.80	6.25	7.15	8.30	8.85	10.95	10.70	10.70	10.15	10.20	10.15	9.80	9.17
Onions, brown ..	lb.	1.85	2.00	2.05	2.05	2.25	2.60	2.50	2.45	2.45	2.50	2.80	3.25	2.40
Soap ..	"	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.80	6.80	6.70	6.70	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.70
Kerosene ..	quart	4.81	4.81	4.87	4.96	5.00	5.04	5.12	5.14	5.17	5.26	5.45	5.45	5.09
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.95	19.95	19.95	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	19.99
Cheese, mild ..	"	15.10	15.10	15.10	15.30	15.30	15.40	15.40	15.50	15.40	15.40	15.20	15.20	15.28
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	12.80	18.60	20.80	27.80	28.10	23.50	16.10	15.90	14.10	14.20	14.70	16.56	18.60
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	17.60	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.42
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.35	9.40	9.38
" fresh ..	quart	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.30	9.30	9.50	10.30	10.10	10.25	11.00	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.23
" rib ..	"	8.25	8.25	8.50	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.50	9.20	9.15	9.00	9.10	9.00	8.94
" steak, rump ..	"	15.30	15.30	15.30	15.70	15.60	15.80	16.40	15.80	15.80	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.73
" " chuck ..	"	8.10	8.10	8.30	8.90	9.00	9.00	9.80	9.50	9.30	9.10	9.00	9.00	8.93
" sausages ..	"	6.60	6.60	6.60	7.30	7.20	7.10	7.75	7.85	7.80	7.70	7.70	7.70	7.33
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	8.50	8.60	8.70	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.80	9.45	9.35	9.15	9.05	9.05	9.08
" " brisket ..	"	6.55	6.65	6.85	7.20	7.25	7.15	7.65	7.45	7.55	7.30	7.30	7.15	7.17
Mutton, leg ..	"	8.00	8.10	8.15	8.30	8.40	8.70	9.00	9.60	8.95	8.10	7.70	7.70	8.47
" " forequarter ..	"	4.60	4.70	4.75	5.00	5.15	5.50	7.15	6.75	6.25	5.05	4.75	4.80	5.37
" " loin ..	"	7.45	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.70	8.10	9.35	8.95	8.75	7.75	7.45	7.55	8.00
" " chops, loin ..	"	8.30	8.30	8.20	8.50	8.50	8.70	10.10	9.85	9.45	8.65	8.55	8.45	8.80
" " " leg ..	"	8.40	8.50	8.50	8.60	8.70	9.00	10.60	10.40	9.85	8.85	8.75	8.80	9.08
Pork, leg ..	"	13.00	13.10	13.00	13.30	13.00	13.00	12.70	12.60	12.50	12.50	12.20	12.30	12.77
" " loin ..	"	13.10	13.10	13.10	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.30	13.20	12.90	12.50	12.50	12.30	12.97
" " chops ..	"	13.40	13.40	13.40	13.50	13.50	13.30	13.30	13.20	13.10	12.80	12.70	12.50	13.18

## SECTION I.—continued.

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1940.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1940
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.46
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.10	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.19
" self-raising ..	"	7.00	7.05	7.15	7.20	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.35	7.55	7.60	7.70	7.70	7.34
Tea ..	lb.	31.45	32.45	32.45	31.90	30.20	30.00	28.10	28.10	29.10	31.10	31.10	31.90	30.66
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.73	3.73	3.73	3.80	3.75	3.80	3.80	3.75	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.77
Sago ..	"	3.85	3.80	3.75	3.85	3.80	3.90	3.95	4.00	4.05	4.20	4.35	4.40	3.99
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.95	7.95	8.50	8.60	8.56	8.70	8.65	8.65	8.55	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.49
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.35	7.40	7.40	7.45	7.65	7.80	7.85	7.90	8.10	7.59
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.63	3.55	3.53	3.45	3.38	3.35	3.38	3.38	3.38	3.45	3.65	3.75	3.49
Raisins, seeded ..	"	10.60	10.75	10.65	10.65	10.70	10.75	10.95	10.95	10.95	10.95	10.95	11.00	10.82
Currants ..	"	9.35	9.30	9.30	9.35	9.35	9.50	9.50	9.55	9.60	9.70	9.80	9.85	9.51
Apricots, dried ..	"	14.78	14.86	15.14	15.33	15.57	15.43	16.14	16.43	17.17	17.50	17.42	17.42	16.10
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.60	11.25	11.35	11.45	11.45	11.60	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.42
Pears, canned ..	"	10.45	11.15	11.30	11.30	11.35	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.31
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	14.50	14.78	14.60	15.38	15.72	15.83	16.22	16.39	16.50	16.72	17.28	17.28	15.86
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	15.12	12.53	10.79	11.30	10.92	10.92	11.25	11.25	11.79	12.13	11.88	12.40	11.86
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.35	1.95	2.00	2.00	2.06	2.22	2.44	2.50	2.50	2.56	2.78	3.56	2.42
Soap, ..	"	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.07	7.23	7.26	7.13	7.07	7.07	7.07	7.03	7.08
Kerosene ..	quart	6.03	6.07	6.10	6.17	6.17	6.17	6.18	6.21	6.23	6.45	6.24	6.24	6.19
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	13.88	13.81	14.11	13.88	13.63	13.88	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.00
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	13.50	21.10	21.20	20.50	29.60	25.90	22.15	16.45	11.65	12.70	16.40	14.20	19.28
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	16.00	16.70	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.90	17.00	17.00	17.30	17.40	17.50	17.30	16.96
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.60	9.60	9.65	9.65	9.65	9.70	9.70	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.69
" fresh ..	quart	6.56	6.56	6.56	6.56	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.63
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.30	9.30	9.40	9.50	9.50	9.70	9.80	10.80	10.90	11.00	10.90	10.90	10.68
" rib ..	"	7.70	7.80	7.80	8.00	8.00	8.20	8.30	8.90	9.40	9.60	9.40	9.40	8.55
" steak, rump ..	"	13.10	13.20	12.90	13.60	13.80	13.90	14.10	15.20	13.30	15.50	15.40	15.10	14.26
" chuck ..	"	7.60	7.50	7.40	7.60	7.60	7.50	7.70	8.50	8.70	9.20	9.20	9.00	8.13
" sausages ..	"	5.90	5.90	5.90	6.10	6.80	6.90	7.00	7.10	7.00	7.00	7.10	7.10	6.65
Beef (corned) silver-														
sid ..	"	9.40	9.50	9.40	9.60	9.40	9.70	9.60	10.30	10.50	10.70	10.60	10.50	9.93
brisket ..	"	7.60	7.80	7.90	7.70	7.80	7.80	8.00	8.60	8.70	8.80	8.90	8.20	8.20
Mutton, " leg ..	"	8.35	8.35	8.40	8.60	8.50	8.70	8.50	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.20	9.20	8.88
" forequarter ..	"	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.50	5.65	5.85	6.15	6.35	6.65	6.35	6.25	5.82
" loin ..	"	7.40	7.50	7.40	7.65	7.75	7.90	7.90	8.55	8.80	9.00	8.40	8.40	8.06
" chops, loin ..	"	9.10	9.00	8.80	9.20	9.20	9.40	9.40	10.40	10.50	10.50	10.40	9.90	9.65
" " leg ..	"	9.70	9.30	9.30	9.60	9.50	9.70	9.70	10.40	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.00
Pork, leg ..	"	11.90	11.80	12.00	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.30	12.40	13.00	13.20	12.80	13.00	12.43
" loin ..	"	11.90	11.90	12.10	12.10	12.40	12.50	12.50	13.20	13.50	13.60	13.50	13.60	12.74
" chops ..	"	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	12.70	12.60	13.30	13.50	13.60	13.70	13.60	12.88

## Section II.

## Weekly House Rents (a) in Metropolitan and Country Towns.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.				
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>					
Sydney .. .. .	21 8	22 7	23 3	23 5	23 5
Newcastle .. .. .	18 8	19 4	20 0	20 3	20 3
Broken Hill .. .. .	14 0	15 4	16 0	16 4	16 3
Goulburn .. .. .	18 4	18 4	18 3	18 3	18 6
Bathurst .. .. .	17 1	17 3	17 8	17 9	17 9
Weighted Average .. .. .	21 3	22 1	22 9	22 11	22 11
<b>VICTORIA—</b>					
Melbourne .. .. .	20 5	21 0	21 5	21 9	21 11
Ballarat .. .. .	14 8	14 7	15 0	14 9	14 10
Bendigo .. .. .	15 1	14 10	15 4	15 5	15 6
Geelong .. .. .	18 7	19 1	19 8	19 10	20 0
Warrnambool .. .. .	18 0	19 2	19 4	19 7	19 8
Weighted Average .. .. .	20 0	20 6	21 0	21 3	21 5
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>					
Brisbane .. .. .	18 6	18 11	19 2	19 3	19 4
Toowoomba .. .. .	17 7	17 5	17 9	17 10	17 11
Rockhampton .. .. .	16 4	16 9	16 11	17 0	17 2
Townsville .. .. .	17 8	18 0	18 1	18 1	18 1
Bundaberg .. .. .	12 1	13 2	13 5	13 6	13 7
Weighted Average .. .. .	18 0	18 5	18 8	18 9	18 10
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Adelaide .. .. .	18 8	19 6	19 11	20 1	20 1
Kadina, etc. .. .. .	7 9	8 1	8 2	8 1	8 1
Port Pirie .. .. .	13 10	14 5	14 11	15 0	15 0
Mount Gambier .. .. .	14 4	14 5	14 5	14 6	14 11
Peterborough .. .. .	15 5	15 6	15 9	16 3	16 1
Weighted Average .. .. .	18 1	18 10	19 3	19 5	19 5
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Perth .. .. .	19 4	19 7	19 9	19 10	19 10
Kalgoorlie .. .. .	27 5	27 8	27 8	27 7	27 5
Northam .. .. .	18 0	18 5	18 7	18 8	18 9
Bunbury .. .. .	20 7	20 10	21 1	21 0	21 0
Geraldton .. .. .	22 4	22 1	22 4	22 4	22 5
Weighted Average .. .. .	20 0	20 3	20 5	20 5	20 5
<b>TASMANIA—</b>					
Hobart .. .. .	20 2	20 6	20 9	20 11	21 0
Launceston .. .. .	18 7	18 10	19 1	19 3	19 3
Burnie .. .. .	17 1	17 5	17 6	17 9	17 8
Devonport .. .. .	15 2	15 10	16 0	16 1	16 2
Queenstown .. .. .	16 9	16 6	16 11	17 0	17 0
Weighted Average .. .. .	19 3	19 6	19 9	19 11	20 0
Weighted Average, Australia .. .. .	20 1	20 8	21 2	21 4	21 5

(a) The rents are shown to the nearest penny.

## SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES.

“Court” Series Index.\*—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Prices Index Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure.—“Court” Series for Quarter ended June, 1941.

(Base : Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1923-27 = 81.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1940.			1941.		Year ended June, 1941.
	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>						
Sydney .. .. .	78.5	78.8	81.6	82.4	82.5	81.4
Newcastle .. ..	76.2	76.5	79.4	79.8	80.2	79.0
Broken Hill .. ..	79.3	79.3	81.8	84.3	84.5	82.5
Goulburn .. .. .	76.6	76.7	79.3	80.1	81.0	79.3
Bathurst .. .. .	74.3	74.8	77.4	78.0	78.6	77.2
Weighted Average—5 Towns	78.4	78.5	81.4	82.2	82.3	81.1
<b>VICTORIA—</b>						
Melbourne .. .. .	78.0	78.4	80.1	80.6	80.9	80.0
Ballarat .. .. .	73.1	73.7	75.1	75.8	76.1	75.2
Bendigo .. .. .	74.1	75.1	76.6	76.8	77.1	76.4
Geelong .. .. .	76.0	76.4	78.2	78.8	78.8	78.1
Warrnambool .. ..	77.0	77.4	79.2	79.7	80.1	79.1
Weighted Average—5 Towns	77.6	78.0	79.7	80.3	80.5	79.7
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>						
Brisbane .. .. .	72.9	73.3	75.9	76.9	77.2	75.8
Toowoomba .. .. .	72.0	72.4	75.4	75.8	76.3	75.0
Rockhampton .. ..	72.9	72.9	75.4	76.7	77.1	75.5
Townsville .. .. .	76.7	76.8	78.7	80.2	80.5	79.1
Bundaberg .. .. .	70.7	70.8	73.4	74.6	75.4	73.6
Weighted Average—5 Towns	73.0	73.3	76.0	77.0	77.3	75.9
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>						
Adelaide .. .. .	75.6	76.0	77.5	78.5	79.4	77.9
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	66.9	67.8	69.4	69.8	70.6	69.4
Port Pirie .. .. .	74.0	74.7	76.3	77.1	78.6	76.7
Mount Gambler .. ..	71.8	72.8	74.7	75.1	76.2	74.7
Peterborough .. ..	74.3	75.1	76.9	77.2	78.3	76.9
Weighted Average—5 Towns	75.2	75.7	77.1	78.1	79.0	77.5
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>						
Perth, Fremantle .. ..	75.4	76.2	77.1	78.1	80.4	78.0
Kalgoorlie, Boulder .. ..	88.4	89.8	91.6	92.9	94.7	92.3
Northam .. .. .	76.3	77.5	78.8	79.9	82.3	79.7
Bunbury .. .. .	78.0	78.1	79.7	80.7	82.3	80.2
Geraldton .. .. .	79.6	80.8	82.7	83.6	85.2	83.1
Weighted Average—5 Towns	76.5	77.3	78.4	79.4	81.6	79.2
<b>TASMANIA—</b>						
Hobart .. .. .	75.9	76.7	79.0	79.5	80.5	78.9
Launceston .. .. .	74.6	75.2	77.3	78.0	78.8	77.3
Burnie .. .. .	73.4	74.6	76.9	77.4	78.6	76.9
Devonport .. .. .	71.7	72.9	75.0	75.7	77.1	75.2
Queenstown .. .. .	75.2	75.7	78.3	79.0	80.2	78.3
Weighted Average—5 Towns	75.2	75.9	78.2	78.8	79.7	78.2
Weighted Average—30 Towns	77.0	77.4	79.6	80.3	80.8	79.5
Weighted Average—6 Capitals	77.2	77.6	79.8	80.5	81.0	79.7
<b>SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.</b>						
Charters Towers (Q.) .. ..	74.4	74.2	75.9	77.5	78.1	76.5
Warwick (Q.) .. .. .	69.9	69.8	72.5	73.7	74.7	72.7
Port Augusta (S.) .. .. .	73.2	74.7	76.8	77.6	79.0	77.1

\* See page 29 for explanation.

## Section IV.

## Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work, at 31st December, 1940.

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at the 31st December, 1940, except in the case of the rates for farming occupations which are the ruling or predominant rates at that date. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 93s. 0d. to 108s. 0d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 95s. 0d. and 104s. 0d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are 44, see footnotes below.

## GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Coopering—</b>						
Coopers .. ..	118 0	122 0	116 6	121 0	114 4	114 0
<b>Furniture—</b>						
Cabinetmakers ..	111 0	108 0	116 11	104 0	109 4	105 0
Carpet Planners ..	111 0	108 0	..	104 0	102 1	105 0
Chairmakers ..	111 0	108 0	116 11	104 0	109 4	105 0
French Polishers ..	111 0	108 0	116 11	104 0	106 4	105 0
Upholsterers ..	111 0	106 0	116 11	102 0	109 4	103 0
Woodcarvers ..	111 0	108 0	116 11	104 0	109 4	105 0
Wood Machinists ..	111 0	93/ to 108/	116 11	89/ to 104/	106/4 & 109/4	90/ to 105/
<b>Mattress Making—Wire</b>						
Finishers .. ..	106 0	99 0	110 6	95 0	..	96 0
Makers .. ..	106 0	99 0	110 6	95 0	106 4	96 0
<b>Picture Framing—</b>						
Compo. Workers ..	105 0	93 0	103 0	89 0	100 4	90 0
General Hands ..	105 0	93 0	103 0	89 0	100 4	90 0
Gilders .. ..	105 0	96 0	103 0	92 0	100 4	93 0
Mount Cutters ..	105 0	96 0	103 0	92 0	100 4	93 0
<b>Saw Milling and Timber</b>						
<b>Yards—</b>						
Box and Casemakers	98 0	97 0	92 11	93 0	92 10	94 0
Labourers .. ..	85 0	84 0	92 0	80 0	85 4	81 0
<b>Machinists—</b>						
Box Printing ..	91 0	90 0	92 11	86 0	88 4	87 0
Boult's Carver ..	110 0	108 0	98 6	104 0	105 10	105 0
Nailing .. ..	92 0	91 0	93 0	87 0	93 10	88 0
Planing .. ..	95/ & 104/	94/ to 103/	93 10	90/ to 99/	99/10 & 105/10	91/ to 100/
Shaping .. ..	109 0	108 0	111 4	104 0	109 10	105 0
Ordermen .. ..	98 0	97 0	94 10	93 0	99 4	94 0
Saw Doctors ..	117 0	117 0	107 8	113 0	115 4	114 0
<b>Sawyers—</b>						
Band or Jig ..	99/ to 112/	98/ to 111/	101 2	94/ to 107/	96/10 & 102/10	95/ to 108/
Circular .. ..	99/ to 106/	98/ to 105/	98 6	94/ to 101/	94/10 & 102/10	95/ to 102/
Stackers .. ..	92 0	91 0	107 8	87 0	90 4	88 0
Wood Turners ..	109 0	105 0	101 3	101 0	108 4	102 0

## GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Agricultural implements</b>						
Assemblers ..	103 0	92/ to 102/	93 0	88/ to 98/	92/10 & 96/4	..
Bulldozermen ..	116 0	96 0	..	92 0	..	..
Drillers .. ..	99/ & 105/	92 0	..	88 0	..	..
Fitters .. ..	103/ & 115/	97/ to 102/	..	93/ to 98/	104/ & 103/4	..
Labourers—unskilled	85 0	84 0	..	80 0	85 4	..
Machinists—Iron ..	105/ & 115/	90/ to 114/	..	86/ to 110/	97/4 & 109/4	..
Painters—Brush ..	93 0	90 0	..	86 0	..	..
Scroll .. ..	93 0	99 0	..	95 0	..	..
Patternmakers ..	124 0	123 0	..	119 0	118 4	..
Sheet Iron Workers	90/ to 96/	104/ & 112/	..	100/ & 108/	..	..
Strikers .. ..	94/ & 96/	93/ & 95/	..	89/ & 91/	95 4	..

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(1) 35 hours. (2) 36 hours. (3) 40 hours. (4) 42 hours. (5) 43 hours. (6) 48 hours. (7) 45 hours. (8) 46 hours. (10) 46½ hours—Daylight, 48 hours, artificial light, 45 hours. (11) 47 hours. (12) 47½ hours. (13) 60 hours. (14) 86 hours per fortnight. (15) 96 hours per fortnight. (16) 48 hours, summer, 46 hours, winter. (17) 88 hours per fortnight. (18) 50 hours. (19) 52 hours.



SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Boiler Making—</b>						
Journeymen ..	115 0	114 0	113 8	110 0	115 4	111 0
Railwaymen ..	115 0	114 0	109 11	110 0	115 4	111 0
<b>Brassworking—</b>						
Coremakers ..	94/ to 115/	93/ to 114/	113 8	89/ to 110/	115 4	90/ to 111/
Dressers ..	96/ & 98/	95/ & 97/	90 4	91/ & 93/	98 4	92/ & 94/
Finishers ..	103/ to 109/	102/ to 108/	113 8	98/ to 104/	115 4	99/ to 105/
Furnacemen ..	100 0	99 0	90/4 to 99/8	95 0	100 4	96 0
Moulders ..	94/ to 115/	93/ to 114/	106/ & 113/8	89/ to 110/	115 4	90/ to 111/
<b>Cycles—</b>						
Assemblers ..	93 0	104 0	101/4 & 113/8	95 0	95 4	82 0
Frame Builders ..	94 8	104/ & 106/3	113 8	104 0	..	82 0
Repairers ..	94 8	104/ & 106/3	113 8	104 0	..	82 0
Turners (Motor) ..	112 0	111 0	120 4	..	115 4	107 0
<b>Electrical Installation—</b>						
Cable Joiners ..	121 0	111/ & 113/	114 1	107/ & 109/	..	108/ & 110/
Fitters ..	121 0	114 0	116 10	110 0	115 4	111 0
Mechanics ..	..	111 0	114 1	107 0	115 4	108 0
Patrolmen ..	115 0	95/6 & 107/	91 9	91/6 & 103/	..	92/6 & 104/
Wiremen ..	..	107 0	114 1	103 0	108 4	104 0
Other Adults ..	..	84 0	89 0	80 0	85 4	81 0
<b>Electrical Supply—</b>						
Armature Winders ..	121 0	114 0	116 10	110 0	115 4	111 0
Cable Joiners ..	121 0	111/ & 113/	114 1	107/ & 109/	..	108/ & 110/
Instrument Makers ..	121 0	114 0	116 10	110 0	115 4	111 0
Linesmen ..	115 0	107 0	114 1	103 0	108 4	104 0
Meter Testers ..	115 0	102/ & 106/	114 1	98/ & 102/	..	99/ & 103/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	94/ & 104/	99 10	90/ & 100/	..	91/ & 101/
Shift Electricians ..	121 0	108/ & 114/	130 10	104/ & 110/	..	105/ & 111/
Switchboard Attendants ..	..	105 6	89 0	101 6	..	102 6
Other Adults ..	100 0	84 0	89 0	80 0	..	81 0
<b>Electrical Trades—</b>						
Fitters ..	121 0	114 0	116 10	110 0	115 4	111 0
Mechanics ..	115 0	111 0	114 1	107 0	115 4	108 0
Wiremen ..	115 0	111 0	114 1	107 0	108 4	108 0
<b>Electroplating—</b>						
Platers ..	103/6 & 111/6	92/ to 114/	103 0	88/ to 110/	109 4	89/ to 111/
Polishers ..	101/6 & 105/6	105 6	97/6 & 103/	101 6	97 4	..
<b>Engineering—</b>						
Blacksmiths ..	116 0	115 0	117 4	111 0	115 4	112 0
Borers and Slotters ..	115 0	114 0	113 8	110 0	115 4	111 0
Brassfinishers ..	115 0	114 0	113 8	110 0	115 4	111 0
Coppersmiths ..	115 0	114 0	117 4	110 0	115 4	111 0
Drillers—Radial ..	95/ to 105/	94/ to 104/	97 8	90/ to 100/	112 4	91/ to 101/
Fitters ..	115 0	114 0	113 8	110 0	115 4	111 0
Millers ..	112 0	111 0	113 8	107 0	115 4	108 0
Patternmakers ..	124 0	123 0	119 0	119 0	124 4	120 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge ..	103 0	102 0	95 0	98 0	96 4	99 0
Other ..	112 0	111 0	113 8	107 0	115 4	108 0
Shapers ..	112 0	111 0	113 8	107 0	115 4	108 0
Turners ..	112 0	111 0	110 8	107 0	115 4	108 0
<b>Ironworking—Assistants—</b>						
Boilermakers' Helpers ..	94 0	93 0	90 4	89 0	94 4	90 0
„ Labourers ..	94 0	93 0	90 4	89 0	85 4	90 0
Engineers' Labourers ..	94 0	93 0	88 8	89 0	94 4	90 0
Furnacemen's Assistants ..	94 0	93 0	88 8	89 0	94 4	90 0
Moulders' Labourers ..	94 0	93 0	88 8	89 0	94 4	90 0
Strikers ..	94/ & 96/	93/ & 95/	90 4	89/ & 91/	85 4	90/ & 92/

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Moulding—Iron—</b>						
Coremakers—Machine ..	94/ to 105/	93/ to 104/	113 8	89/ to 100/	100 4	90/ to 101/
„ Other ..	115 0	114 0	113 8	110 0	115 4	111 0
Dressers and Fettlers ..	86/ & 98/	85/ & 97/	90 4	81/ & 93/	96 4	82/ & 94/
Furnaceman ..	100/ to 113/	99/ to 112/	90/4 to 99/8	95/ to 108/	100/4 & 115/4	96/ to 109/
Moulders—Machine ..	94/ to 105/	93/ to 104/	106 0	89/ to 100/	100 4	90/ to 101/
„ Other ..	115 0	114 0	113 8	110 0	115 4	111 0
<b>Sheet Metal Working—</b>						
Canister Makers ..	91 6	92/ & 96/	99 4	88/ & 92/	97 4	89/ & 93/
<b>Japanners—</b>						
Coating or Brush-work ..	100 0	92 0	101 2	88 0	..	..
Ornamental ..	102 0	104 0	101 2	100 0	..	..
Solderers ..	91/6 & 95/6	92/ & 96/	101 2	88/ & 92/	93 4	..
Tinsmiths ..	105 6	104/ & 112/	101 2	100/ & 108/	105/4 & 113/4	102 8
<b>Nailmaking—</b>						
Case Wires ..	91 0	84 0	..	80 0	..	..
Labourers ..	91 0	84 0	..	80 0	..	..
Setters Up ..	110 0	96 0	..	92 0	..	..
<b>Wire Working—</b>						
Journeymen ..	105 0	100 0	..	96 0	94 4	..

## GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Aerated Water and Cordials—</b>						
Bottlers ..	87/6 & 90/	86/6 & 89/	84 0	86 6	90 4	104 6
Drivers (Motor) ..	94/ to 101/	95/ & 102/	93/ & 101/	87/ to 95/	97 4	90/ to 97/
„ (One Horse) ..	89 0	90 0	91 0	84 0	97 4	85 0
Packers ..	87 6	86 6	84 0	83 6	90 4	97 6
Writers ..	90 0	89 0	..	83 6	90 4	97 6
<b>Baking (Bread)—</b>						
Board Hands ..	122 0	113 8	102/ to 107/	106 0	119 4	113 0
Carters (One Horse) ..	108 6	103 0	93 0	101 0	95 10	84 0
Doughmen ..	122/ to 124/6	113 8	109 6	111 0	124 4	113 0
Ovenmen ..	130 6	113 8	107 0	106 0	119 4	113 0
Singlehands ..	128 0	122 10	109 6	111 0	124 4	113 0
<b>Baking (Biscuits and Cakes)—</b>						
Adult Males ..	91 0	86 0	84 0	84 0	93 4	87 0
Bakers ..	106 0	95 0	91 6	89 0	95 4	97 6
Mixers ..	97 0	95 0	91 6	87 0	95 4	102 0
<b>Brewing—</b>						
Adult Males ..	104 0	102 0	95 0	97 6	105 0	93 6
Bottlers and Washers ..	104 0	102 0	95 0	97 6	105 0	93 6
Cellarmen ..	104/ & 107/	105 3	100 0	97 6	105 0	93 6
Drivers (Two Horses) ..	107 0	93 0	97 0	100 6	105 0	90 0
„ (Motor under 3 tons) ..	113 0	97 0	97/ to 105/	103 6	105 0	94 0
Towermen ..	106 0	106 0	95 0	100 6	105 0	95 6
<b>Butchering (Carcase)—</b>						
Chilling Room Hands ..	101 0	..	101 6	124 6	91 4	..
Labourers (Beef) ..	105 0	91 6	89 0	104 6	95 4	88 6
„ (Mutton) ..	96 6	91 6	89 0	104 6	95 4	..
Solders ..	117 0	100 0	101 6	118 6	95 4	..
Slaughtermen (Beef) ..	147 6	114 0	111 6	139 6	112 10	115 0
„ (Mutton) ..	(a)	114 0	111 6	139 6	112 10	115 0

(a) Piecework rates.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Butchering (Retail)—</b>						
Carters (Cash Cutting) ..	112 0	102 6	101 6	96 6	105 4	92 6
General Hands ..	94 6	102 6	92 6	87 0	90 4	..
Shopmen ..	105 6	102 6	101 6	95 6	105 4	92 6
	104/6 & 112/	102 6	101 6	95 6	105/4 & 110/4	92 6
Smallgoodsmen ..	99/6 & 107/	100 0	101 6	95 6	105 4	100 0
<b>Cold Storage and Ice—</b>						
Chamber Hands ..	102/6 to 108/6	107 5	129 9	..	..	87 3
Pullers and Stackers..	96/ to 105/6	107 5	125 3	..	..	87 3
<b>Confectionery—</b>						
Journeyman ..	109 0	94 6	91 6	89/ & 94/6	..	88 6
Storemen ..	87 0	88/6 & 92/6	88 0	84 0	..	91 3
<b>Ham and Bacon Curing—</b>						
Curers—First Hand ..	121 0	110 0	113 0	106 0	113 4	100 0
Cutters Up—First Hand ..	107 0	102 0	107 0	98 6	113 4	92 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	95 6	101 0	91 6	98 10	92 6
Lardmen ..	93 6	95/6 & 102/6	101 0	91 6	103 10	92 6
Rollers and Trimmers	98 6	102 6	94 9	98 6	98/10 & 103/10	92 6
Scalders ..	93 6	102 6	103 6	98 6	106 4	92 6
Slaughtermen ..	107 6	110 0	113 0	106 0	113 4	108 0
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	113 6	110 0	113 0	104 0	113 4	100 0
Smokers—First Hand	99 6	102 6	107 0	97 0	98 10	92 6
<b>Jam Making and Preserving—</b>						
Adult Males ..	87 0	87 0	84 0	87 0	93 4	87 0
Solderers ..	94 0	94 0	101 2	94 0	93 4	94 0
<b>Malting—</b>						
Maltsters ..	106/ & 108/	95 0	84 0	97 6	100 4	84 0
<b>Milling—Condiments—</b>						
Grinders ..	107 0	87 0	85 6	84 0	..	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	107 0	89 0	85 6	86 0	..	..
Stone Dressers ..	107 0	94 6	85 6	91 6	..	..
<b>Milling—Flour—</b>						
Millers—Head ..	113 0	113 0	112 6	113 0	113 0	113 6
Shift ..	100/ to 110/6	100/ to 110/6	104/ to 112/6	100/ to 110/6	100/ to 110/6	103 6
Packermen ..	88 0	88 0	92 6	88 0	88 0	93 6
Purifiers ..	91 0	91 0	92 6	91 0	91 0	88 6
Silkmen ..	91 0	91 0	92 6	91 0	91 0	88 6
Storemen—Head ..	93/ & 98/	93/ & 98/	97 6	93/ & 98/	93/ & 98/	98 6
Topmen ..	91 0	91 0	92 6	91 0	91 0	93 6
Truckers and Others..	84/ & 89/	84/ & 89/	..	84/ & 89/	84/ & 89/	88 6
<b>Milling—Oatmeal—</b>						
Kilnmen ..	97 0	87 6	85 6	83 6	..	88/6 & 93/6
Millers—Head ..	107 6	94 6	93/6 to 104/6	90 6	..	113 6
<b>Pastrycooking—</b>						
Carters ..	97 2	88 0	91 0	88 0	94 10	85 0
Pastrycooks ..	111 6	110 0	112 0	106 0	105/4 & 112/10	106 0

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Bootmaking—</b>						
Bootmakers ..	108 0	108 0	108 0	108 0	101 4	108 0
<b>Tailoring—Order—</b>						
Cutters ..	113 0	113 0	113 0	113 0	125 4	113 0
Pressers ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	104 4	103 0
Tailors ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	104 4	103 0
Trimmers ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	104 4	103 0

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Tailoring—Ready-made—</b>						
Cutters .. ..	106 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	102 4	106 0
Folders .. ..	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6	..	86 6
Machinists .. ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	..	103 0
Pressers .. ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	102 4	103 0
Tailors .. ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	102 4	103 0
Trimmers .. ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	102 4	103 0
<b>Textile-Working—Woollen</b>						
Mills—						
Carders .. ..	87 0	87 0	84 0	87 0	87 0	87 0
Dyehousemen ..	88 0	88 0	84 0	88 0	88 0	88 0
Labourers—General ..	87 0	87 0	84 0	87 0	87 0	87 0
Pattern Weavers ..	90 0	90 0	..	90 0	90 0	90 0
Scourers .. ..	88 0	88 0	84 0	88 0	88 0	88 0
Spinners .. ..	87 0	87 0	95 0	87 0	87 0	87 0
Tuners .. ..	90/ to 106/	90/ to 106/	84/ & 95/	90/ to 106/	90/ to 106/	90/ to 106/

## GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Bookbinding—</b>						
Bookbinders .. ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Finishers .. ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Marblers .. ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Paper Rulers .. ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
<b>Engraving (Process)—(a)</b>						
Engravers .. ..	117 6	115/ & 120/	..	104 0	..	..
Etchers—Half-tone ..	123 6	115/ & 120/	114 0	116 6	115 4	..
Etchers—Line .. ..	117 6	115/ & 120/	106 0	112/6 & 116/6	107 2	..
Operators .. ..	123 6	115/ & 120/	114 0	116 6	115 4	..
Printers .. ..	117 6	115/ & 120/	104 0	97 6	110 2	..
Router .. ..	112 6	113 0	101 0	97 6	100 1	..
<b>Lithographing—</b>						
Printers .. ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Rotary Machinists ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Stone Polishers .. ..	93 0	92 0	87 0	88 0	88 0	88 0
<b>Printing (Daily News- papers)—</b>						
Compositors—						
Day Work .. ..	131 0	113 11	118 10	119 0	146 10	109 0
Night Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 141 0	<sup>4</sup> 131 4	126 2	<sup>4</sup> 128 0	<sup>4</sup> 159 7	<sup>4</sup> 119 0
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work .. ..	131 6	115 0	105 0	98 0	134 1	90 6
Night Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 141 6	<sup>4</sup> 125 0	110 0	<sup>4</sup> 117 0	<sup>4</sup> 146 10	<sup>4</sup> 99 6
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work .. ..	157/6 & 167/6	(b)	130 6	(b)	156 2	(b)
Night Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 167/6 & 177/6	(b)	137 10	(b)	<sup>2</sup> 168 11	(b)
<b>Machinists (First Hand)—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	131 0	121 3	127 6	119 0	138 4	108 0
Night Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 141 0	<sup>4</sup> 131 3	132 6	<sup>4</sup> 128 0	<sup>4</sup> 151 1	<sup>4</sup> 117 0
Publishers .. ..	111/6 & 121/6	99/6 & 109/6	94/ & 110/	98/ & 107/	<sup>2</sup> 123/ & 125/9	88/ & 96/
<b>Readers—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	139 6	113 11	115 0	122 0	146 10	112 0
Night Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 149 6	<sup>4</sup> 131 4	120 0	<sup>4</sup> 131 0	<sup>4</sup> 159 7	121 0
<b>Readers' Assistants—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	108 6	89 3	100 0	95 0	118 4	85 0
Night Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 118 6	<sup>4</sup> 98 3	105 0	<sup>4</sup> 104 0	<sup>4</sup> 130 8	<sup>4</sup> 94 0
<b>Stereotypers (First Class)—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	<sup>4</sup> 124 0	115 0	107/6 & 115/	107 0	<sup>2</sup> 132 0	97 0
Night Work .. ..	<sup>2</sup> 134 0	<sup>4</sup> 125 0	112/6 & 120/	<sup>4</sup> 116 0	<sup>2</sup> 144 8	<sup>4</sup> 106 0

(a) Other than in newspaper offices.

(b) Piece-work rates.

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	112/ & 121/	111/ & 120/	106/ & 115/	107/ & 116/	107/ & 116/	107/ & 116/
Electrotypers ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
General Hands ..	85 0	84 0	79 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
Linotype Operators ..	121 0	120 0	115 0	116 0	116 0	116 0
Machinists ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Monotype Operators ..	121 0	120 0	115 0	116 0	116 0	116 0
Monotype Casting						
Machinists ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Readers ..	115 0	114 0	109 0	110 0	110 0	110 0
Stereotypers ..	112 0	111 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Brickmaking—						
Burners ..	115 0	94 0	92/ to 98/	93 0	92/10 & 106/4	93 9
Carters—Two horses ..	103 6	93 0	96 0	93 0	99 10	87 0
Drawers ..	115 0	97/ & 99/6	86 6	101 0	(a)	93 9
Labourers ..	108 5	85 0	84 8	90 0	92 10	91 0
Machinemens ..	105 9	94 0	86 6	93/ & 97/	92/10 & 95/10	91 0
Farmermen ..	100/ & 115/	92/ & 96/	84 8	93 0	102 10	91 0
Pitmen ..	112 3	100/ & 105/	..	98 0	92 10	91 0
Setters ..	115 0	97/ & 99/6	86 6	101 0	100 10	96 6
Wheelers ..	109 6	91 6	84/8 & 86/6	90 0	95 10	91 0
Brushmaking—						
Base Broom Drawers ..	107 6	95 0	101 6	99 0	..	..
Finishers ..	107 6	95 0	101 6	99 0	..	..
Machinists—Boring ..	107 6	95 0	101 6	99 0	..	..
Paint Brush Makers ..	112 6	100 0	101 6	103 0	..	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers ..	91 6	90 0	88 0	86 0	..	..
General Hands ..	88 0	90 0	84 0	80 0	85 4	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	95 0	90 0	84 0	86 0	95 4	..
Moulders ..	95 0	90 0	85 0	86 0	95 4	..
Stillmen ..	98 0	90 0	88 0	86 0	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Gullotine and other						
Cutters ..	95/ to 101/	94/ to 100/	89/ to 95/	90/ to 96/	90/ to 96/	90/ to 96/
Other Adults ..	85 0	84 0	79 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
Seachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	112/ & 115/	111/ & 114/	108 0	107/ & 110/	109 4	108/ & 111/
Labourers ..	85 0	84 0	87 0	80 0	85 4	81 0
Painters ..	112 0	111 0	108 0	107 0	109 4	108 0
Smiths ..	116 0	115 0	108 0	111 0	109 4	112 0
Trimmers ..	112 0	111 0	108 0	107 0	109 4	108 0
Wheelmaking Ma-						
chinists ..	109 0	108 0	108 0	104 0	109 4	105 0
Wheelwrights ..	109 0	108 0	108 0	104 0	109 4	105 0
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	90 0	89 0	..	80 6	..	..
Green Hands ..	90 0	89 0	..	80 6	..	..
Limepit Men ..	90 0	89 0	..	80 6	..	..
Machinists ..	93 0	92 0	..	80 6	..	..
Soakhole Men ..	93 0	92 0	..	80 6	..	..
Wool Sorters ..	103 0	102 0	..	80 6	..	..

(a) Piece-work rates.

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Gas Making and Supply—</b>						
Coke Trimmers ..	101 6	93 0	84 0	..	88 4	..
Gas Fitters ..	128 0	122 0	119 0	113 0	122 2	124 8
Labourers ..	90 0	84 0	84 0	83 0	88 4	81 0
Mainlayers ..	104 9	122 0	95 0	110/ & 112/	100 4	98 0
Metermakers ..	110 0	113 0	..	113/ to 118/	126 4	98 0
Meter Testers ..	104 9	101 5	..	101 0	..	..
Service Layers ..	104 9	122 0	95 0	113 0	100 4	98 0
Stokers ..	108 0	98/ to 105/	109/ & 111/	94/ & 101/	94 4	99 0
<b>Glassfoundry—</b>						
Furnacemen ..	97 0	96 0	90 0	89 6	102 0	..
Labourers ..	85 0	87 0	84 0	80 6	80 6	..
Lehrmen ..	128 6	90 6	87 6	84 0	84 0	..
Sorters ..	87 6	89 6	86 6	83 0	83 0	..
<b>Glass Working and Glazing</b>						
Bevellers ..	112 10	106 0	107 0	102 0	106 4	102 0
Cutters and Glaziers ..	111 0	106 0	111 0	102 0	..	..
Lead Light Glaziers ..	111 0	106 0	..	102 0	109 4	..
Silverers ..	112 10	106 0	107 0	102 0	106 4	..
<b>Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—</b>						
Chainmakers ..	107/ & 111/	102 0	96 0	101 0	109 4	..
Engravers ..	111 0	102 0	96/ & 99/	103 0	109 4	..
Mounters ..	107 0	102 0	96/ & 99/	109 0	109 4	..
Setters ..	111 0	102 0	99 0	109 0	109 4	..
Watch and Clock-makers and Repairers	117 0	95/ & 110/	101 6	109 6	110 4	..
<b>Masonry—Marble and Stone—</b>						
Carvers ..	159 2	145 0	128 8	143 4	120 10	..
Machinists—						
Carborundum ..	132 6	103 0	128 8	100/ to 108/	120 10	..
Other ..	110 2	103 0	128 8	108 0	120 10	..
Masons ..	132 6	117 0	128 8	117 8	120 10	107 0
<b>Paper Bag Making—</b>						
Gullotine Cutters ..	97 0	96 0	91 0	92 0	92 0	93 0
Machinists ..	101 0	100 0	95 0	96 0	96 0	97 0
<b>Paper Making—</b>						
Beaters ..	110/ & 112/	111 0	..	..	..	..
Breakermen ..	88 0	96/ & 99/	..	..	..	..
Gullotine Men ..	89 0	94 0	..	..	..	..
Machinists ..	103/ & 115/	114 0	..	..	..	..
Ragboltermen ..	97 0	88/ & 96/	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	88 0	84 0	..	..	..	..
<b>Potteries—General—</b>						
Burners—Head ..	100 0	94 0	92 0	..	..	87 0
Hollow-ware Pressers ..	105 0	89 0	84 8	..	..	87 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	111 0	90 0	84 8	..	..	87 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	111 0	96 0	103 0	..	..	90 0
<b>Potteries—Plasmaking—</b>						
Burners—Head ..	105 0	94 0	98 0	105 0	99 4	87 0
Drawers ..	100 6	88 0	84 8	105 0	85 4	..
Moulders ..	105 6	84 0	84 8	..	79 4	81/ & 84/
Mould Makers ..	100 6	96 0	86 6	105 0	97 5	..
Bettors ..	102 6	92 0	84 8	..	91/5 & 98/9	85 6
<b>Quarrying—</b>						
Borers—						
Hand or Machine ..	104 10	102 0	93 6	101 6	94 1	88 4
Dressers ..	113 8	109 0	87 2	95 6	..	85 7
Facemen ..	106 8	105 0	93 2	95 6	..	79 0
Hammermen ..	102/6 & 105/	109 0	93 2	95/6 & 98/9	94 1	85 7
Machine Feeders ..	108 6	102 0	88/7 & 92/8	95 6	99 10	86 6
Quarrymen ..	113 8	..	96 10	95 6	94 1	94 6



## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Rubber Working—						
Calendar Hands ..	107/ & 112/	106/ & 111/	100/ & 104/	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	89 0	88 0	..	..	..	..
Dough Mixers ..	89 0	88 0	101 6	..	..	..
Hosemakers ..	91/ & 98/	90/ & 97/	96 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathes						
Hands ..	91/ & 95/6	90/ & 94/6	96 6	..	..	..
Mill Hands ..	85/ & 98/	84/ & 97/	84 0	..	..	..
Spinders ..	92/ & 98/	91/ & 97/	101 6	..	..	..
Surgical Packing, and other Makers ..	91/ & 100/	90/ & 99/	91/6 & 96/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	95 6	94 6	91 6	..	..	..
Saddlery and Harness- making—						
Harness makers ..	106 0	106 0	106 0	<sup>8</sup> 105 0	107 4	106 0
Saddlers ..	106 0	106 0	106 0	<sup>8</sup> 105 0	107 4	106 0
Sail Making—						
Sailmakers ..	106 0	106 0	106 0	<sup>8</sup> 92 0	..	106 0
Ship Building—						
Carpenters and Joiners	122 4	122 4	122 4	122 4	122 4	122 4
Dockers ..	118 8	118 8	118 8	118 8	118 8	118 8
Painters ..	118 8	118 8	118 8	118 8	118 8	118 8
Shipwrights ..	<sup>6</sup> 138 10	<sup>6</sup> 138 10	<sup>6</sup> 138 10	<sup>6</sup> 138 10	<sup>6</sup> 138 10	<sup>6</sup> 138 10
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	88 0	84 0	84 0	80 0	85 4	<sup>7</sup> 101 ..
Mixers ..	88 0	90 0	84 0	86 0	94 4	..
Soap Makers ..	110 0	94 6	84 0	90 6	94 4	<sup>7</sup> 106 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beamsmen ..	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0
Curriers ..	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0
Japanners or Enam- ellers ..	93 6	93 6	93 6	93 6	93 6	93 6
Linememen and Yardmen	85 0	85 0	85 0	85 0	85 0	85 0
Machinists—						
Fleshing ..	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0
Scouring ..	87 0	87 0	87 0	87 0	87 0	87 0
Splitting ..	101 0	101 0	101 0	101 0	101 0	101 0
Unhairing ..	90 6	90 6	90 6	90 6	90 6	90 6
Rollers and Strikers ..	92 6	92 6	92 6	92 6	92 6	92 6
Tablemen ..	90 6	90 6	90 6	90 6	90 6	90 6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters ..	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	..	..	100/ & 106/
Machinists ..	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	..	..	100/ & 106/
Sewers—Hand	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	..	..	100/ & 106/
Tent Makers ..	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	100/ & 106/	..	90 4	100/ & 106/

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Building—						
Bricklayers—						
Surface ..	129 6	128 4	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	122 0	120 4	116 6
Sewer and Tunnel..	135 0	135 11	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	122 0	120 4	116/6 & 122/6
Carpenters ..	129 6	116 6	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	115 8	119 4	116 6
Labouring (Builders)..	91 0	90 0	<sup>3</sup> 92 11	86 0	98 3	87 0
Lathers ..	129 6	108 6	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	..	..	87 0
Metal Cellars ..	119 6	..	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	..	110 10	116 6
Masons ..	<sup>3</sup> 132 6	117 0	<sup>3</sup> 117 6	119 8	120 10	116 6
Painters, Paperhangers	118 4	115 6	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	112 0	119 4	116 6
Signwriters ..	125 4	115 6	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	112 0	119 4	116 6

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Building—continued—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Plasterers—						
Surface ..	129 6	124 8	109 7	122 0	121 2	116 6
Sewer or Tunnel ..	135 0	137 6	<sup>3</sup> 115/7 & 118/7	122 0	121/2 to 127/2	122/6 & 128/6
Plumbers, Gasfitters..	130 4	125 0	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	119 8	121 3	124 8
Slaters ..	129 4	126 6	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	..	..	..
Tilers ..	129 4	126 6	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	122 0	106 7	..
Tuckpointers ..	129 6	114 0	<sup>3</sup> 109 7	122 0	..	..
<b>Water Supply and Sewerage—</b>						
Concrete Workers ..	89/ to 104/11	110 2	95/ to 104/2	85/6 & 90/	91 4	..
Labourers ..	86/6 to 97/7	87 8	86 0	84 0	85 4	..
Miners—Sewer ..	110/10 to 129/9	97/8 & 103/2	111 6	87/ & 93/	94 4	..
Pipe-jointers and Setters ..	97/7 to 102/6	98 8	89/6 & 94/4	90/ & 91/6	94/4 & 103/4	..

## GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Coal Mining—</b>						
Blacksmiths ..	126 6	121 9	117/ to 138/5	(a)	115 4	127 6
Bracemen ..	<sup>3</sup> 107 8	<sup>3</sup> 108 2	<sup>3</sup> 92/6 to 118/	..	..	..
Carpenters ..	130 2	119 0	111/6 to 138/5	..	..	115 6
Deputies ..	<sup>3</sup> 148/ & 151/	<sup>3</sup> 124 8	<sup>3</sup> 108/9 to 133/	..	..	<sup>3</sup> 128 0
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	126/ to 137/11	119/1 to 139/4	121/6 to 125/	..	121/10 to 128/8	..
Other ..	115/6 to 129/3	119/1 to 146/4	116/ to 144/	..	..	..
Labourers—						
Surface ..	101/1 to 107/3	103 2	99/ to 124/9	..	91 11	105 6
Underground ..	<sup>3</sup> 104/6 to 115/11	..	<sup>3</sup> 99/ to 124/9	..	<sup>3</sup> 97 10	<sup>3</sup> 110 0
Miners—						
Machine ..	(b)	(b)	<sup>3</sup> 105/10 to 127/11	..	<sup>3</sup> 122/2 to 142/4	..
Manual—Dry Work	(b)	(b)	(b)	..	<sup>3</sup> 122/2 to 139/7	..
Platmen or Banksmen	<sup>3</sup> 109/3 to 132/11	<sup>3</sup> 113 2	<sup>3</sup> 112 9	..	<sup>3</sup> 104 9	<sup>3</sup> 110 0
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	<sup>3</sup> 109/3 to 132/11	<sup>3</sup> 113 2	<sup>3</sup> 102/1 to 125/10	..	<sup>3</sup> 128 9	<sup>3</sup> 125 6
Wet Work ..	<sup>3</sup> 116/2 to 139/9	<sup>3</sup> 121 2	<sup>3</sup> 111/1 to 134/10	..	..	..
Shotfirers ..	<sup>3</sup> 111/ to 141/	<sup>3</sup> 126 6	<sup>3</sup> 102/1 to 125/10	..	<sup>3</sup> 126 9	..
Timbermen..	<sup>3</sup> 123/9 to 130/8	<sup>3</sup> 124 8	<sup>3</sup> 102/1 to 117/1	..	<sup>3</sup> 126 9	<sup>3</sup> 110 0
Welghmen ..	<sup>3</sup> 124 0	<sup>3</sup> 105 11	..	..	<sup>3</sup> 103/10 to 114/10	<sup>3</sup> 110 0
Wheelers ..	<sup>3</sup> 105/5 to 125/2	<sup>3</sup> 105 11	<sup>3</sup> 102/2 to 121/1	..	..	<sup>3</sup> 110 0
<b>Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—</b>					(d)	
Battery Feeders ..	93 0	78/ to 86/	94/4 to 99/10	(c)	118 1	78 0
Bracemen ..	95 0	94/ & 96/	99/10 to 105/4	..	127 1	<sup>3</sup> 83 0

(a) Coal not mined. (b) Piece-work rates. (c) Very little gold is produced and difficulty is experienced in obtaining reliable information. (d) Exclude District Allowances.

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP VIII.—MINING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Gold and Other Mining</b> (except Coal)— <i>contd.</i>						
Engine Drivers— Stationary ..	100/6 to 106/6	96/ to 102/	98/ to 119/	..	132/1 to 139/1	84/ to 103/
Winding and Loco.	112/ to 118/	96/ to 112/	108/ to 130/	..	135/1 to 171/1	102/ to 106/
Firemen ..	96/ to 100/6	87/ to 93/	93/ to 110/10	..	124/1 to 139/1	82 o
Labourers ..	91 o	89/ & 92/	94/4 to 99/10	..	118 1	78 o
<b>Miners—</b>						
Machine ..	102/6 to 105/6	92/ & 95/	108/ to 113/6	..	131/1 to 138/1	81/ & 90/
Manual— Dry Work ..	102/6 to 104/6	98/ & 102	99/10 to 105/4	..	126/1 & 133/1	87/ & 90/
Wet Work ..	102/6 to 105/6	104/ to 112/	108/ to 114/6	..	135/ & 142/1	93/ & 99/
Platmen ..	95 o	94/ & 97/	99/10 to 105/4	..	127 1	83 o
<b>Shaft Sinkers—</b>						
Dry Work ..	104 6	101/ & 105/	99/10 to 114/6	..	126/1 to 133/1	94 o
Wet Work ..	104 6	107/ & 112/	108/ to 114/6	..	135/1 to 142/1	117 6
Timbermen ..	104/ & 108/6	101/ & 104/	108/ to 111/6	..	133/1 to 138/1	90/ to 95/

## GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Railways—</b>						
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class ..	131 o	131 o	122 9	127 o	131 4	127 o
2nd Class ..	125 o	125 o	117 3	121 o	123 4	120 o
3rd Class ..	119 o	119 o	110 10	115 o	115 4	115 o
4th Class ..	113 o	113 o	104 5	109 o	112 4	109 o
5th Class ..	107 o	107 o	104 5	103 o	112 4	103 o
<b>Firemen—</b>						
1st Class ..	104 o	101 o	98 o	97 o	106 4	97 o
2nd Class ..	101 o	92/ & 95/	92 6	91 o	100 4	91 o
3rd Class ..	95 o	89 o	92 6	85/ & 88/	95 4	85/ & 88/
<b>Guards—</b>						
1st Class ..	99/ to 115/6	111/6 & 114/6	114 6	107/6 to 110/6	109 4	105 o
2nd Class ..	96/ to 111/6	107/ to 110/	109 o	103/ to 106/	106 4	99 o
3rd Class ..	90/ to 99/	92/ to 101/	98 11	85/ & 87/	103 4	91 o
Porters ..	87/ to 108/	83/ to 101/	85/2/ & 88/10	99/ & 103/6	85 4	78 o
<b>Shunters—</b>						
1st Class ..	96/ to 132/	110/ to 116/	114 6	101/6 & 104/6	103 4	93/ to 103/
2nd Class ..	93/ to 126/	105/6 to 109/6	107 2	94/ & 97/	100 4	..
3rd Class ..	90/ to 111/	98/ to 101/	103 6	..	94 4	..
Ordinary ..	90 o	89/ to 95/	95 3	..	94 4	90 o
<b>Signalmen—</b>						
Special ..	..	119 o	109/ & 117/3	101/6 to 110/6	112 4	..
1st Class ..	120 o	110 o	107 2	98 6	103 4	90 o
2nd Class ..	114 o	104 o	102 7	95 6	97 4	87 o
3rd Class ..	109 o	99 6	96 2	89 6	91 4	..
4th Class ..	93/ to 105/	95 o	91 7	86 6	88 4	..

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Tramways (Electric and Cable)—</b>						
Car Washers or Cleaners	88 0	92 0	91 7	83/ & 86/	..	*83 0
Conductors—						
1st Year ..	91 0	92 0	87 0	85/ & 87/	87 4	*81 6
2nd Year ..	94 0	95 0	87/ & 92/	87 0	97 4	*84 6
3rd Year ..	97 0	98 0	92/ & 102/	91/ & 96/	..	*87 6
Horse Drivers ..	91 0	93/ to 100/	91 0	..	..	..
Labourers ..	88 0	86 0	84 0	81 0	85 4	*83 0
Maintenance Men ..	88/ to 93/	95 0	91 7	86/ & 87/	91 4	*86 0
Motormen or Gripmen—						
1st Year ..	103 0	92 0	87 0	87 0	97 4	*83 0
2nd Year ..	103 0	95 0	87/ & 92/	90 0	97 4	*86 0
3rd Year ..	103 0	98 0	92/ & 102/	93/ & 97/6	97 4	*89 0
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading ..	115 0	112 0	123 1	94/ & 102/6	103 4	*100 0
Other ..	94/ to 121/	106 0	108 1	87/ & 95/6	..	95 0
Pitmen ..	99 0	104 0	..	87/ to 93/	97 4	..
Signalmen ..	103/6 to 112/6	101 0	98/ & 102/	93/ & 102/6	..	..
Track Cleaners ..	85 0	92 0	87 0	84/ & 87/	100 4	*83 0

## GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Carrying—Merchandise—</b>						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	96 0	88 0	91 0	84 0	*94 10	85 0
Two Horses ..	101 0	93 0	96 0	89 0	*99 10	90 0
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	100 0	88 0	91 0	84 0	93 4	85 0
Two Horses ..	106 6	93 0	96 0	89 0	98 4	90 0
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	96 0	94 0	98 0	90 0	*102 10	91 0
Two Horses ..	101 0	99 0	103 0	95 0	*107 10	96 0
Sanitary Carters ..	104/ & 109/	91/ to 101/	92 0	87/ & 97/	103 2	88/ to 98/
Stable Hands ..	95/6 & 100/6	86 0	84 0	82 0	*93 10	83 0
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	98/ to 108/	93/ to 97/	93/ to 101/	89/ to 93/	*99/10 to 103/10	90/ to 94/
3 tons or over ..	112/ to 116/	100 0	104/ to 111/	96 0	*107 10	97 0
<b>Lift Attendants—</b>						
Goods ..	91 0	*92 6	90/ & 92/	..	*95 8	..
Passenger ..	91 0	*92 6	84/ & 86/	..	*93 2	..

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

## GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Waterside Working—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Wharf Labourers per hour <i>a</i>	2 11½	2 11½	2 11½ to 3 7½	2 11½	2 11½	2 11½
<b>Passenger Vessels—Interstate <i>b</i>—</b>						
Bakers per month			323/ to 403/			
Barmen "			213/ <i>d</i>			
Butchers "			343/ to 383/ <i>e</i>			
Cooks—						
Chief "			453/ to 483/ <i>e</i>			
Second "			373/ <i>e</i>			
Third "			313/ <i>e</i>			
Ships "			363/ <i>e</i>			
Pantrymen "			253/ to 353/ <i>e</i>			
Scullerymen "			293/ <i>e</i>			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon "			403/ <i>d</i>			
Second "			393/ <i>d</i>			
Second Saloon "			363/ <i>d</i>			
Fore Cabin "			353/ <i>d</i>			
Bedroom and Other "			303/ to 313/ <i>d</i>			
<b>All Vessels—Interstate <i>b</i>—</b>						
A.B. Seamen per month			345/6			
Boatswains "			365/6			
Donkeymen "			405/6			
Firemen "			385/6			
Greasers "			385/6			
Lamp Trimmers "			365/6			
Fuel Trimmers "			345/6			
<b>Marine Engineers <i>b e g</i>—</b>		<i>Vessels (Steam).</i>		<i>Vessels (Steam).</i>		
Chief per month		Under 100 N.H.P.		100 N.H.P. and over.		
Second "		651/6 to 706/6		736/6 to 1116/6		
Third "		546/6		546/6 to 736/6		
Fourth "		491/6		491/6 to 616/6		
Fifth, 6th, 7th and 8th "		..		432/ to 556/6		
		..		422/		
				Seagoing		
				Passenger Vessels.		
<b>Merchant Service <i>b f g</i>—</b>					Seagoing	
Masters per month	125 tons or under.	Over 10,000 tons.	60 tons or under.	Over 10,000 tons.	Cargo Vessels.	
Officers—	702/	1776/6	574/	1336/6		
Chief "	522/	736/6	462/	656/6		
Second "	462/	656/6	422/	596/6		
Third "	..	566/6	..	526/6		
Fourth and Fifth "	..	422/	..	422/		

*a* Rate of wage quoted is for other than special cargo. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. *c* Not more than 8 hours per day. *d* Not more than 10 hours per day when at sea, 9 per day when in intermediate ports, not more than 8 per day when in terminal ports. *e* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horsepower of vessels. *f* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given. *g* *Marine Engineers*—Not more than 8 hours per day. *Masters and Officers*—Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours. *h* Not more than 8 hours per day.

## GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Farming <i>c</i>—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
General Hands <i>a b</i> ..	25/ to 30/	25/ to 30/	25/ to 30/	20/ to 30/	28/ to 43/	30/ to 42/
Harvesters <i>a b</i> ..	30/ to 55/	30/ to 50/	30/ to 60/	30/ to 50/	35/ to 55/	42/ to 60/
Milkers <i>a b</i> ..	25/ to 35/	25/ to 35/	25/ to 30/	20/ to 30/	25/ to 40/	25/ to 30/
Ploughmen <i>a b</i> ..	27/6 to 32/6	25/ to 30/	25/ to 30/	30/ to 50/	35/ to 50/	31/ to 37/
<b>Chaffcutting—</b>						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	97/6 & 100/6	101 6	..	..	88/5 to 115/9	1305 0
Feeders (Stationary mill)	97/6 & 100/6	95 6	..	..	88/5 to 115/9	1305 0

For footnotes, see next page.

## SECTION IV.—continued.

## GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Gardening—</b>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gardeners .. ..	100 6	84/4 to 90/9	93 8	91 6	91 4	81 0
Labourers .. ..	85 0	84/4 & 85/3	84 0	90 0	85 4	78 0
<b>Nurserymen</b> .. ..	100 6	90/6 & 101/	93 8	91 6	97 4	81 0
Labourers .. ..	85 0	84 0	84 0	90 0	85 4	78 0
<b>Pastoral Workers d—</b>						
Cooks b .. ..	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0	108 0	116 0
Shearers .. per 100	35 0	35 0	35 0	35 0	32 0	..
Shed Hands b ..	96 0	96 0	96 0	96 0	97 0	96 0
Wool Pressers b ..	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	106 6	100 0
<b>Rural Workers—</b>						
Fruit Harvesters ..	82 0	82 0	84 0	82 0	..	..

a Ruling or predominant rates, see note at commencement of table. b Rates of wage quoted are in addition to board and lodging provided. c Hours in the farming industry vary considerably, and no reliable particulars can be published. d Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 44 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

## GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Clubs, Hotels, and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Cooks (Hotels and Restaurants)—</b>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Chefs .. ..	107/6 to 200/	100/6 to 130/	111/ & 116/	109/ to 134/	109 8	75/9 to 128/
Cooks—Second ..	97/ to 150/	94/6 to 112/6	101 0	94/ to 104/	94 3	57/9 to 102/3
Cooks—Third ..	94/ to 120/	94 6	101 0	94 0	87 6	57/9 to 82/6
Kitchenmen ..	87 0	88 6	88 6	84 0	85 4	69 0
<b>Hairstressing—</b>						
Hairstressers ..	106 0	105 0	99 0	105 0	105 4	80/ to 105/
<b>Hotels—</b>						
Barmen .. ..	94 6	93 0	90 0	101 0	109 4	88 0
Billiard Markers ..	85 0	88 6	86 0	84 0	86 10	64 3
Handymen .. ..	85 0	88 6	86 0	84 0	85 4	64/ & 69/
Lift Attendants ..	85 0	92 6	86 0	88 9	87 10	64/ to 76/
Porters—Day Work ..	85 0	88 6	86 0	86 6	85 4	64 0
Porters—Night Work ..	87 0	88 6	86 0	86 6	87 6	76 0
Waiters—Head ..	94 0	94 0	86 0	94/ & 97/	..	82/6 & 95/6
Waiters—Other ..	87 0	88 0	86 0	89 6	86 6	63/3 to 75/9
<b>Restaurants—</b>						
Pantrymen .. ..	85/6 & 87/6	84 0	88 6	86 0	85 4	69 0
Waiters .. ..	85/ & 90/	84 0	88 6	89/6 & 90/6	85 4	63/3 to 75/9

## GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Factory Engine Driving—</b>						
Engine Drivers (Stationary)	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1st Class .. ..	100/ & 103/	99/ & 102/	111 0	93/6 & 96/6	98/10 & 101/10	93/ to 96/
2nd Class .. ..	97/ & 100/	96/ & 99/	103 0	90/6 & 93/6	95/10 & 98/10	90/ to 92/
3rd Class .. ..	97/ & 100/	96/ & 99/	95 0	90/6 & 93/6	95/10 & 98/10	90/ to 92/
<b>Firemen—</b>						
1st Class .. ..	97 0	96 0	93 0	87/6 to 90/6	94 4	87 0
2nd Class .. ..	92 6	91 6	..	86/ & 87/	91 4	84/ & 86/
Greasers .. ..	92 6	91 6	93 0	84 0	94 4	84 0
Trimmers .. ..	92 6	91 6	89 0	84 0	91 4	82 0



SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Municipal—</b>						
Labourers .. ..	93 0	86 0	86 0	87 0	85 4	81 0
Street Sweepers ..	93 0	91 0	86 0	87 0	85 4	84 0
<b>Shop and Other Assistants</b>						
Boot Salesmen ..	98 6	<sup>8</sup> 105 6	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	102 1	<sup>8</sup> 83/ to 98/
Chemists' Assistants ..	113 0	<sup>8</sup> 104 6	110 6	<sup>6</sup> 107/ & 117/	102 1	103 0
Clerks .. ..	100/ & 101/6	<sup>6</sup> 99 0	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 93 6	93/1 to 104/8	102 0
Drapery Salesmen ..	98 6	<sup>8</sup> 106 0	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 98 6	102 1	<sup>8</sup> 88/ to 103/
Furniture Salesmen ..	101 6	<sup>8</sup> 105 0	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 95 6	102 1	110 0
Grocery Salesmen ..	100 0	<sup>8</sup> 94 0	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 95 6	102 1	<sup>6</sup> 95 6
Hardware Salesmen ..	92 6	<sup>8</sup> 100 0	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 95 6	102 1	<sup>6</sup> 103 0
Railway Bookstall Assistants .. ..	100 0	<sup>11</sup> 86 6	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	102 1	<sup>6</sup> 93 0
Tobacconists' Assta. ..	100 0	<sup>6</sup> 98/6 & 108/6	99 0	<sup>6</sup> 94 0	102 1	<sup>6</sup> 82 3
<b>Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &amp;c.—</b>						
Night Watchmen ..	89/ & 92/6	<sup>12</sup> 95/8 & 108/2	87 0	<sup>6</sup> 90 6	104/10 & 107/5	<sup>6</sup> 82 0
Office Cleaners ..	91/6 to 101/6	87 0	84/ & 89/	<sup>6</sup> 84 0	98 5	<sup>6</sup> 78 0
Packers—General ..	98/6 & 101/6	89 0	87 0	87 0	102 1	90 0
Storemen—General ..	93/ & 96/	89 0	87 0	87 0	102 1	90 0
<b>Wholesale Grocery—</b>						
Packers .. ..	97 6	89 0	89 0	87 0	102 1	90 0
Storemen .. ..	96 0	89 0	89 0	87 0	102 1	90 0
<b>Wholesale Hardware—</b>						
Packers .. ..	97/ & 99/	89 0	89 0	87 0	102 1	90 0
Storemen .. ..	93/ to 97/	89 0	89 0	87 0	102 1	90 0

## Section V.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1940.

(See Explanatory Note at top of page 143.)

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Biscuit Making— Adult Females ..	s. d. 48 0	s. d. 43 6	s. d. 45 0	s. d. 41 0	s. d. 48 6	s. d. 42 6
Confectionery— Adult Females ..	48 6	48 6	45 0	41 6	42/2 to 58/1	48 6
Jam Making and Pres- erving— Fillers ..	54 0	54 0	50 6	54 0	46 1	54 0
Other Adults ..	48 0	48 0	50 6	48 0	46 1	48 0
Tea Packing— Head Women ..	46 3	56 0	46/6 to 56/	..	46 7	..
Other Adults ..	46 3	49 3	45 0	44 6	..	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)— Ringers ..	47 0	48 0	..	..	45 1	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	62 0	55 6	..	..	45 1	..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bootmaking— Machinists — Wax Thread ..	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	..	66 0
Other Adults ..	54/ & 59/6	54/ & 59/6	54/ & 59/6	54/ & 59/6	52 0	54/ & 59/6
Dressmaking— Adult Females ..	46/9 to 67/3	46/9 to 67/3	46/9 to 67/3	46/9 to 67/3	50/11 & 52/7	46/9 to 67/3
Dyers and Cleaners— Adult Females ..	46/ to 52/6	46/ to 52/6	46/ to 52/6	46/ to 52/6	60 7	46/ to 52/6
Hat Making (Straw)— Finishers & Machinists	49 9	49 9	49 9	49 9	..	49 9
Millinery— Adult Females ..	46/9 to 49/9	46/9 to 49/9	46/9 to 49/9	46/9 to 49/9	49 11	46/9 to 49/9
Shirt Making— Adult Females ..	46/9 to 62/3	46/9 to 62/3	46/9 to 62/3	46/9 to 62/3	49/4 to 55/10	46/9 to 62/3
Tailoring (Order)— Machinists— Coat Hands ..	57 3	57 3	57 3	57 3	59 0	57 3
Trousers, Vest Hands	55 9	55 9	55 9	55 9	54/10 to 57/	55 9
Tailoresses— Coat Hands ..	57 3	57 3	57 3	57 3	64/ to 65/2	57 3
Trousers, Vest Hands	55 9	55 9	55 9	55 9	54/10 to 57/	55 9
Tailoring (Ready-made)— Machinists— Coat Hands ..	54 9	54 9	54 9	54 9	51 10	54 9
Trousers, Vest Hands	49 9	49 9	49 9	49 9	49 4	49 9
Tailoresses— Coat Hands ..	54 9	54 9	54 9	54 9	51 10	54 9
Trousers, Vest Hands	49 9	49 9	49 9	49 9	49 4	49 9
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)— Comb Minders ..	50 0	50 0	44 0	50 0	50 0	50 0
Drawers and Menders Warpers ..	53/ to 59/ 50 0	53/ to 59/ 50 0	47/ to 53/ 48/ to 53/	53/ to 59/ 50 0	53/ to 59/ 50 0	53/ to 59/ 50 0
Weavers—Loom ..	59 0	59 0	53 0	59 0	59 0	59 0
Other Adults ..	50 0	50 0	44 0	50 0	50 0	50 0
Underclothing— Adult Females ..	46/9 to 60/3	46/9 to 60/3	46/9 to 60/3	46/9 to 60/3	50/11 & 52/7	46/9 to 60/3

SECTION V.—*continued.*

## GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Bedding and Furniture—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bedding Machinists ..	50 6	54 6	50 11	45 0	64 1	45 0
Picture Frame Workers	55 6	54 6	..	50 6	61 11	49 0
<b>Bookbinding—</b>						
Folders and Sewers ..	53/6 & 54/6	51/3 & 52/3	49/ & 50/	51/3 & 52/3	51/3 & 52/3	51/3 & 52/3
<b>Brush Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	54 6	44 0	47 0	44 6	..	..
<b>Candle and Soap Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	49 6	44 0	46 0	39 9	..	26 7
<b>Cardboard Box Making—</b>						
Box Makers ..	50/6 to 56/6	49/3 to 55/3	46/ to 53/	49/3 to 55/3	49/3 to 55/3	49/3 to 55/3
Other Adults ..	45/6 to 50/6	44/3 to 49/3	42/ to 50/	44/3 to 49/3	44/3 to 49/3	44/3 to 49/3
<b>Jewellery—</b>						
Chainmakers ..	54/ & 59/	102 0	67 0	..	58 8	..
Gilders ..	45 6	92 0	57 0	63 3	58 8	..
Polishers ..	54 0	102 0	57 0	63 3	58 8	..
Scratch Brushers ..	54 0	47 6	57 0	63 3	58 8	..
<b>Leather Goods—</b>						
Adult Females ..	53 6	53 6	53 6	44/6 to 51/6	53 5	53 6
<b>Paper Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	45 6	54/6 & 56/6	..	..	..	..
<b>Paper Bag Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	45/6 & 51/6	44/3 to 50/3	42/ to 48/	44/3 to 50/3	44/3 to 50/3	44/3 to 50/3
<b>Potteries—</b>						
Adult Females ..	45 6	45 9	50 0	..	..	..
<b>Printing—</b>						
Jobbing Office Assistants ..	53 6	51 9	51 3	51 9	51 9	51 9
Lithographic Feeders	52 6	50 9	50 3	50 9	50 9	50 9
<b>Rubber Working—</b>						
Adult Females ..	45 0	44 6	51 0	..	..	..
<b>Tent and Tarpaulin Making</b>						
Machinists ..	53 6	53 6	53 6	50 6	48 0	53 6

## GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Hotels—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Barmalids ..	67 0	70 9	80 0	58 0	105 5	66 0
Housemaids ..	54 6	57 9	49 6	50 0	60 2	52 9
Laundresses ..	60 0	60 9	55 6	54 0	60 2	56 0
Waitresses—Head ..	60 6	60 9	49 6	55 0	..	48/3 to 69/9
„ Other ..	55 6	56 9	49 6	50 0	60 2	48/3 & 54/3
<b>Laundries—</b>						
General Hands ..	48 0	46 9	46 0	44 0	54 1	40 0
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	50 0	55 9	46 0	48 0	58 1	40/ & 45/
Sorters ..	50 0	46 9	46 0	48 0	54 1	40 0
Starchers ..	47 0	52 3	46 0	44 0	54 1	40 0
Washers ..	47 0	58/ & 91/6	46 0	44 0	64 10	45 0
<b>Office Cleaning—</b>						
Adult Females ..	54/ & 56/3	80 5	60/ to 64/	47 0	57 11	..
<b>Restaurants—</b>						
Pantry Maids ..	53 0	49 0	49 6	45 0	51 5	54 0
Waitresses ..	53/ & 56/	49 0	49 6	46/6 & 54/	49 6	48/3 & 54/3

SECTION V.—*continued.*

## GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Clerks, &amp;c.—</b>						
Cashiers ..	52 9	58 0	75 0	55 0	(a) 62 4	85 6
Clerical Assistants ..	52 9	58 0	75 0	55 0	..	85 6
<b>Saleswomen—</b>						
Boot ..	65 6	40/ to 57/6	60 6	46 6	56/8 & 61/11	84 6
Drapery ..	65 6	54 6	60 6	90 9	56/8 & 65/7	84 6
Fruit and Confectionery	55 6	42 6	60 6	46 6	56 8	65 6
Newsagent and Book-	65 6	34/6 to 49/	60 6	46 6	56 8	64 6
stall ..	65 6	61/ to 83/6	60 6	53 6	56 8	65 0
Tabacconists ..	65 6					

(a) 38 hours, except in special circumstances.

## Section VI.

## COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

(\* Base of Each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1911 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Index-numbers.				Nominal Wages Adult Males.	Real Wages. (a)	Percentage of Unemploy- ment among Trade Unionists.
	Food and Grocer- ies.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	All Items of House- hold Ex- pendi- ture.			
Year—							
1911 .. .. .	1,000	1,000	1,000	b 1,000	1,000	b 1,000	4.7
1914 .. .. .	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,081	948	8.3
1921 .. .. .	1,902	1,410	1,717	1,680	1,826	1,087	11.2
1929 .. .. .	1,866	1,754	1,824	1,713	1,972	1,151	11.1
1931 .. .. .	1,477	1,473	1,475	1,448	1,752	1,210	27.4
1937 .. .. .	1,521	1,488	1,510	1,448	1,707	1,178	9.3
1938 .. .. .	1,584	1,540	1,568	1,488	1,799	1,211	8.7
1939 .. .. .	1,657	1,577	1,626	1,526	1,846	1,211	9.7
1940 .. .. .	1,679	1,590	1,644	1,588	1,889	1,190	8.0
1941 .. .. .	1,693	1,595	1,654	1,673	1,997	1,194	3.7
Quarter—							
1931.							
March .. .. .	1,538	1,560	1,546	1,500	1,814	1,209	25.8
June .. .. .	1,496	1,501	1,498	1,464	1,764	1,205	27.6
September ..	1,435	1,447	1,439	1,423	1,735	1,219	28.3
December .. .	1,439	1,382	1,418	1,406	1,694	1,205	28.0
1932.							
March .. .. .	1,465	1,358	1,425	1,403	1,680	1,197	28.3
June .. .. .	1,448	1,345	1,409	1,389	1,672	1,204	30.0
September ..	1,416	1,327	1,382	1,370	1,608	1,174	29.6
December .. .	1,369	1,314	1,348	1,346	1,597	1,186	28.1
1933.							
March .. .. .	1,317	1,318	1,318	1,327	1,585	1,194	26.5
June .. .. .	1,337	1,314	1,329	1,334	1,595	1,196	25.7
September ..	1,359	1,311	1,341	1,340	1,587	1,184	25.1
December .. .	1,355	1,311	1,339	1,337	1,570	1,174	23.0
1934.							
March .. .. .	1,371	1,315	1,350	1,344	1,572	1,170	21.9
June .. .. .	1,404	1,310	1,372	1,358	1,592	1,172	20.9
September ..	1,401	1,331	1,375	1,357	1,596	1,176	20.4
December .. .	1,422	1,332	1,388	1,361	1,599	1,175	18.8
1935.							
March .. .. .	1,420	1,356	1,396	1,368	1,607	1,175	18.6
June .. .. .	1,425	1,363	1,402	1,371	1,609	1,174	17.8
September ..	1,461	1,379	1,430	1,389	1,613	1,161	15.9
December .. .	1,460	1,390	1,434	1,391	1,620	1,165	13.7
1936.							
March .. .. .	1,445	1,413	1,433	1,391	1,623	1,167	13.4
June .. .. .	1,455	1,425	1,444	1,397	1,620	1,166	12.8
September ..	1,489	1,449	1,474	1,420	1,641	1,156	12.0
December .. .	1,510	1,461	1,491	1,430	1,659	1,160	10.7
1937.							
March .. .. .	1,510	1,470	1,495	1,433	1,662	1,160	9.9
June .. .. .	1,507	1,483	1,498	1,441	1,680	1,166	9.7
September ..	1,526	1,499	1,516	1,454	1,721	1,184	9.3
December .. .	1,540	1,510	1,529	1,465	1,763	1,203	8.2
1938.							
March .. .. .	1,540	1,521	1,534	1,467	1,778	1,212	8.0
June .. .. .	1,572	1,534	1,558	1,482	1,787	1,206	8.6
September ..	1,616	1,547	1,589	1,500	1,806	1,204	9.2
December .. .	1,608	1,559	1,589	1,501	1,823	1,215	8.9
1939.							
March .. .. .	1,673	1,568	1,631	1,524	1,826	1,198	9.6
June .. .. .	1,654	1,575	1,623	1,522	1,847	1,214	9.5
September ..	1,645	1,582	1,620	1,520	1,854	1,220	10.2
December .. .	1,657	1,584	1,628	1,536	1,858	1,210	9.3
1940.							
March .. .. .	1,640	1,587	1,620	1,542	1,864	1,209	7.9
June .. .. .	1,688	1,589	1,649	1,583	1,875	1,184	10.5
September ..	1,676	1,591	1,642	1,590	1,903	1,197	7.4
December .. .	1,710	1,593	1,663	1,635	1,912	1,169	6.2
1941.							
March .. .. .	1,713	1,595	1,666	1,651	1,966	1,191	5.3
June .. .. .	1,679	1,595	1,646	1,660	1,984	1,195	3.6
September ..	1,673	1,595	1,643	1,675	2,002	1,195	3.2
December .. .	1,705	1,596	1,662	1,707	2,034	1,192	2.9

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" series index of retail prices.

(b) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the Food and Rent of All Houses ("A" Series) Index.

\*The index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 in each group or combination is made equal to 1,000.

## Section VII.

**Commonwealth Department of Labour and National Service.**

This Department was created on the 28th October, 1940, in lieu of the Department of Industry. The first Minister in Charge was the Honorable H. E. Holt, M.P., who was succeeded by the Honorable E. J. Ward, M.P., on the change of Government in October, 1941. The administrative headquarters of the Central Secretariat of the Department are located in Melbourne, and there are branch offices of the Department in Canberra and the other State capitals (except Hobart).

The principal functions of the new Department were explained by the Minister to the House of Representatives on 10th December, 1940, as relating to matters of general labour policy, man-power priorities, investigation of labour supply and demand, the effective placement of labour, technical training for defence purposes, industrial relations and welfare, research into man-power questions, and the co-ordination of Commonwealth plans for post-war reconstruction.

The Department consists of a Central Secretariat and six Divisions, viz. :—(i) Employment ; (ii) Industrial Relations ; (iii) Industrial Training ; (iv) Industrial Welfare ; (v) Record and Analysis ; and (vi) Reconstruction. The Department is also responsible for the administration of the Commonwealth War Workers Housing Trust, the Man-power Priorities Board, the National Register Board, and the Coal Reference Boards.

The chief activities of these Divisions and agencies are as follows :—

(i) *Employment Division.*—This Division is concerned chiefly with investigation of the supply of labour available for urgent national work, with investigation of the demand for labour, both from munition plants and civil industry, and with the placement of unemployed, under-employed, or mis-employed labour in jobs which will contribute both to the war effort and to the well-being of the civil population. In co-operation with the State Departments of Labour, its machinery is being so devised as to fit it to assist in the problem of re-employment at the end of the war. The Division operates through the National Employment Offices which have been established in each State capital.

(ii) *Industrial Relations Division.*—This Division is concerned chiefly with wages and working conditions in the munitions and other industries of national importance, and, as its name implies, with the maintenance of industrial peace. It is also responsible for supervising the administration of schemes for the dilution of labour under the National Security (Trades Dilution) Regulations. The work of the Division is facilitated by the advice and assistance given by the Trade Union Advisory Panel.

(iii) *Industrial Training Division.*—This Division is responsible for the organization, co-ordination and general direction of technical training for defence purposes in Government controlled technical schools and colleges throughout Australia, and in specially selected industrial instructional workshops. With the consent and co-operation of the State Governments, approved training programmes are carried out in each State through the administrative machinery of the State Education Departments. The allocation of civilian trainees to employment in industry on completion of training is carried out in each State by Local Dilution Committees. The Division will also be responsible for the training and re-training of members of the fighting services who return to Australia after the war.



SECTION VII.—*continued.*

(iv) *Industrial Welfare Division.*—This Division is being developed along the lines which are at present not adequately covered by State activities. It has a general responsibility for the oversight of working conditions in factories and other establishments connected with the war effort. There is scope for much useful work in connexion with such matters as the improvement of the health, welfare and recreational activities of the workers. The Division works in close co-operation with the Munitions Health Advisory Committee, and with the Controller of Welfare of the Ministry of Munitions, who is responsible for the carrying out of welfare work in Government munition factories. As one of its activities, the Division has arranged for the special training, in intensive short-term courses, of welfare workers who will be employed in Government and civil establishments.

(v) *Record and Analysis Division.*—The chief function of this division is the administration of the National Register, which was taken over from the Department of Defence Co-ordination, and the analysis of statistics derived therefrom for the general planning activities of the Department. It will also be responsible for any systems of central registration required by other Divisions in the course of their work, and for assembling and analysing employment and unemployment statistics supplied by other Government agencies.

(vi) *Reconstruction Division.*—The function of this Division is to act as the co-ordinating agency of the Commonwealth Government in relation to reconstruction planning. It supplies the secretariat for the Commonwealth Inter-departmental Advisory Committee on Reconstruction, and affords a link between the Commonwealth and State Departments and other bodies, public and private, in relation to reconstruction planning. Planning in relation to reconstruction may be divided into the following sections: (a) man-power: repatriation, demobilization, training and re-establishment; (b) external relations, economic and political; (c) adjustment and development in industry and primary production; (d) economic welfare and social security; (e) statistics; (f) constitutional adjustment, machinery of government; and (g) general principles of economic and political reconstruction. The Commonwealth Departments concerned and special departmental bodies are working on plans for each of these sections of the work. The State Governments have also set up inter-departmental advisory committees on reconstruction to secure links with the Commonwealth Government in regard to planning for reconstruction. Publicity and information services are an important side of reconstruction, and among other activities in this sphere the Reconstruction Division plans a series of reconstruction pamphlets and studies.

(vii) *Commonwealth War Workers Housing Trust.*—The Trust was established in August, 1941, to carry on the work of the Department in providing accommodation for war workers. The purposes of the Trust are:—

- (a) to investigate the housing, transport and communal facilities available to war workers throughout the Commonwealth;
- (b) to determine the nature and extent of any such facilities which, in the opinion of the Trust, are necessary to enable war workers to live according to reasonable standards of comfort within reasonable distances of their places of work; and
- (c) within the limits of the powers conferred on it by the Regulations, to take whatever action it considers necessary to secure the provision of such facilities.

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

For these purposes, the Trust is empowered to make investigations into housing, transport and communal facilities available to war workers, to enter into arrangements and agreements for the supply of materials for the carrying out of work, to hold and manage land and to erect and manage houses, hostels or other buildings, and, subject to the approval of the Minister and the Treasurer, to make advances and to give financial guarantees to any person, society, authority or State department undertaking to provide housing facilities.

The Trust, which derives its powers from the National Security (Housing of War Workers) Regulations, consists of the Secretary of the Department and five other members appointed by the Minister. It is required to make every endeavour consistent with the attainment of its purposes to utilize the services of existing authorities and departments of the Commonwealth and State Governments in carrying out its work.

(viii) *Man-power Priorities Board.*—This Board was established to review the general field of man-power in the light of demands made by the war programmes and essential civil needs, and advise Cabinet of the effects, in terms of man-power, of Service and departmental proposals referred to it for report. It is also responsible for superintending the maintenance and amendment of reserved occupations, and for advising the Inter-Service Man-power Committee on general policy in regard to exemption or release of individuals, or special classes of individuals from military service. Amongst its other functions are advising the Department of War Organization of Industry of the extent to which the need for conserving man-power requires restriction of non-essential industries and services, and assisting in devising measures to facilitate the voluntary transfer of labour from low priority to high priority work.

The Board, which was established by Executive action, consists of a Director of Man-power Priorities (chairman), a representative of the Services (deputy chairman), a representative of employers and a representative of employees. As chief representative of the Board in each State there is a deputy director of man-power priorities jointly nominated by the Commonwealth and State Governments, associated with each deputy director is a Committee of Advice consisting of the deputy director, a representative of employers and a representative of employees. In certain cases a further member has been added. The deputy directors are responsible for advising the central Board on questions arising in their States in regard to the operations of the Reserved List of Occupations, for collaborating with the Service Authorities in regard to exemptions and releases from military service, and also act as consultants on labour allocation problems to the National Employment Offices.

(ix) *National Register Board.*—This Board was established under the *National Registration Act 1939* and is responsible for the detailed administration of the National Register.

(x) *Coal Reference Boards.*—The Central and Local Coal Reference Boards are responsible for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes in the coal and shale mining industry. The Boards derive their authority from the National Security (Coal Mining Industry Employment) Regulations.

SECTION VII.—*continued*.

Amongst the regulations administered by the Department are the following :—

- National Security (Reinstatement in Civil Employment) Regulations.
  - National Security (Apprenticeship) Regulations.
  - National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations.
  - National Security (Coal Mining Industry Employment) Regulations.
  - National Security (Statistics) Regulations.
  - National Security (Employment) Regulations.
  - National Security (Housing of War Workers) Regulations.
  - National Security (Metal Moulding Trades) Regulations.
  - National Security (Engineering Trades Dilution) Regulations.
  - National Security (Blacksmithing Trades Dilution) Regulations.
  - National Security (Boilermaking Trades Dilution) Regulations.
  - National Security (Electrical Trades Dilution) Regulations.
  - National Security (Sheet Metal Trades Dilution) Regulations.
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